BASTI:

A GAZETTEER,

BEING

VOLUME ~~XXXII~~ X (XXVI)

OF THE

DISTRICT GAZETTEER OF THE UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

1907

BY

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ALLAHABAD:

PRINTED BY F. LUKER, SUPDT., GOVT. PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES.

1907.

Price Rs. 3 (4*s*. 6*d*.).

GAZETTEER OF BASTI

CONTENTS.

PREFACE.

The former Gazetteer of the Basti District was compiled by Mr. H. C. Conybeare, I. C. S., who availed himself principally of the old Settlement Report of 1863, and notes contributed by Mr. J. B. Thomson, I.C.S., and other district officers. Since that time the district has undergone a fresh settlement and the valuable report of Mr. J. Hooper, I.C.S., has provided a mass of information for the present volume. In addition, I have to express the debts of gratitude I owe to Mr. F. B. Sherring, I.C.S., who undertook the original revision of Mr. Conybeare's work, and more particularly to Mr. H. T. Morgan, I.C.S., who has spared no pains in collecting the large amount of new material necessitated by the alteration of the general scheme of the District Gazetteers, and has rendered great assistance in reading the proofs. The ancient history is from the pen of Mr. R. Burn, I.C.S.

Naini Tal:
August 1906.

H. R. N.

GAZETTEER OF BASTI.

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ABBREVIATIONS.

J. R. A. S.—Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.

J. A. S. B.—Journal of the Bengal Asiatic Society.

A. S. N. I.—Archæological Survey of Northern India.

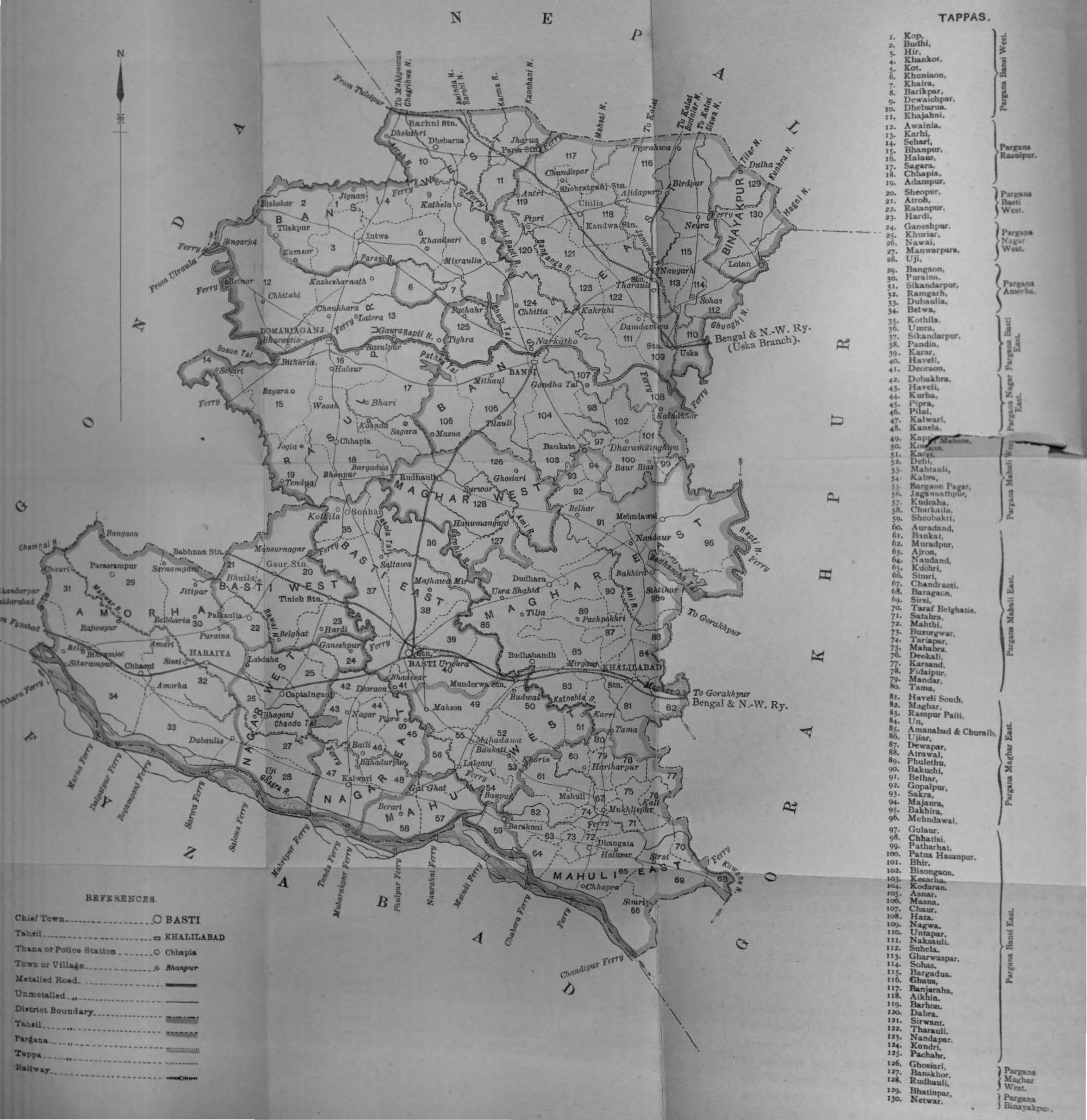
E. H. I.—The History of India, as told by its own Historians, by Sir H. M. Elliot, K.C.B.

DISTRICT

BASTI.

Scale—1 Inch = 8 Miles.

10 5 0 10 Miles.



CHAPTER I.

GENERAL FEATURES.

BASTI is one of the three large districts composing the Gorakhpur division, and forms part of the stretch of country lying beyond the river Ghagra in the north-east corner of the United Provinces. The district lies between the parallels of 26° 25′ and 27° 30′ north latitude, and 82° 13′ and 83° 18′ east longitude. It comprises a tract of somewhat irregular shape, the length from north to south varying between 52 and 68 miles, and the breadth from east to west ranging from 28 to 52 miles. The total area, according to the latest official statement, is 1,789,171 acres or 2,795·5 square miles. In point of size therefore it stands among the largest districts in the provinces, although very much smaller than Gorakhpur, of which it originally formed a portion. The district lies between Gorakhpur on the east and Gonda on the west. On the south the Ghagra separates it from Fyzabad, while on the north the boundary marches with Nepal, running at a distance of some 20 or 30 miles from the outer range of the Himalayas. Boundaries and area.

In its general aspect Basti is a wide alluvial plain, densely populated, and in most parts highly cultivated. Though the dead level is only broken by the shallow valleys of the rivers, which generally run in a south-easterly direction, the surface of the country is a gentle slope from the north and west to the south and east. The mean elevation is about 290 feet above the sea, this being the height of the civil station of Basti. The nature of the slope may be illustrated by a comparison of the various heights recorded at the great trigonometrical survey. The extreme elevation is 326 feet at Majhawa in the north-western corner, and on a line drawn from this place to Uska on the eastern boundary the recorded heights are 319 feet at Pipri to the north of Domariaganj; 292 feet at Khaira; 281 feet at Bagra, a short distance from Bansi; and 273 feet at Puraina near Uska. Levels.

In the south of the district the heights are shown by the bench-marks along the road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur. The level drops from 306 feet above the sea at Belwa, the nearest point to Fyzabad, to 300 feet at Haraiya, 290 feet at Basti, 278 feet at Budhabandh, and 263 feet at Khalilabad.

Topography.

In spite of its apparent uniformity of aspect, the district is divided topographically into several distinct tracts. Roughly speaking, these comprise the low valley of the Ghagra in the south, extending from that river to its tributary the Kuwana; the central upland, between the latter river and the Rapti; and the low and ill-drained rice belt between the Rapti and the Nepal boundary. These three belts contain several minor divisions, which call for a more detailed description: generally, it may be premised that Basti is very similar in its conformation to the Oudh districts of Gonda and Bahraich, which form a continuation of the same tract of country.

The Ghagra lowlands.

The alluvial tract along the Ghagra in the south consists, in the immediate neighbourhood of the stream, of a thin crust of firm soil overlying a stratum of pure sand. Under such conditions the course of the river, subject as it is to heavy floods, is extremely liable to change. A slight obstruction diverts the current against the bank, with the result that the underlying soil is swept away, and frequently the process is continued till a large area has been carried off by the river. At another time the current will swing back in a different direction, and in the course of a year or two the submerged land will reappear in the shape of a low alluvial bank, and the higher ground to the east and west comes in for similar treatment. The result is that the high bank is a series of curves, in places close to the deep stream, and elsewhere receding far inland, with an alluvial expanse of *manjha* between it and the river. These *manjhas* are invariably flooded in the rains, but during the cold weather are frequently covered with a sufficient deposit of fertile silt to enable them to bear strong crops of the coarser grains, as well as a large amount of sugarcane. Cultivation is cheap, as no irrigation is required; but the chief value of the *manjha* lies in the abundant pasture it affords for the fully tilled villages of the southern parganas; and also for the *jhau* or tamarisk it so freely produces,

which is used for fuel, thatching material and many other purposes.

The *tarhar*.

Above the present high bank lies a stretch of low country running parallel to the Ghagra, and extending for a considerable distance inland. This lowlying belt are known, as in Gonda, as the *tarhar*, though occasionally the more familiar appellations of *khadir* or *kachhar* are given. It is composed of recent alluvium, and practically the whole of it has at one time or another been occupied by the river bed. This is proved, if proof be required, by the nature of the soil, which consists of successive layers of silt, generally a greyish loam, but varying according to the character of the fluvial deposit; and also by the discovery of old boats buried far inland. In places there are patches of very poor sandy soil, marking a temporary bank of the river. These are described as *bhur*, *balua*, *dhus* or *dhusi*, and are found dotted about over the whole tract; the most extensive are those round the village of Amorha, a little to the east in tappa Ramgarh, in the neighbourhood of Dubaulia, in the north-west of tappa Kalwari, near Gaighat in Charkaila, and in the north-west corner of Semri near the Chaparthala lake. On the other hand, there are many hollows in which the soil is waterlogged and too stiff for anything but rice cultivation: these depressions are full of ponds and marshes, and a good deal of the land is of the variety known as *usar* or *rehar*, from the presence of the saline efflorescence called *reh*; while the strips of higher ground termed *bangar*, from which the water drains rapidly away, are hard, dry, and unfertile. The hollows are most marked in the centre of Ramgarh and Sikandarpur, and in the villages of Belwa and Dubaulia to the south of Amorha. The *tarhar*, too, is in many parts liable to inundation, particularly in pargana Mahuli, towards the junction of the Ghagra with the Kuwana. In spite of these drawbacks, the alluvial belt is one of the most fertile portions of the district. Throughout the tract irrigation is ample, as water is near the surface, wells are easily constructed, and the numerous tanks, which are filled from the overflow of the rivers in the rains, form natural reservoirs for use in the dry season. The wheat of pargana Mahuli is famous, while in addition to the ordinary grains the *tarhar* produces quantities of sugarcane and

poppy, as well as vegetable crops such as sweet potatoes and garlic. The tract includes all the lands south of the Manwar and the lower Kuwana, excepting the north-west corner of tappa Sikandarpur in pargana Amorha; and also certain tappas and portions of tappas to the north of these two rivers. These comprise part of Bangaon in Amorha, and of Nawai in Nagar West; all Pilai with part of Haveli and Pipra in Nagar East; Jagannathpur, Kabra, and a few villages of Bargaon Pagar in Mahuli West; and the greater part of Muradpur in Mahuli East.

The *uparhar* edge.

The *tarhar* terminates on the north in the old high bank of the Ghagra, which is here described, as in Gonda and Bahraich, by the name of the *uparhar* edge. This is a strip of high undulating land, with a distinctly poor soil containing a large proportion of sand. This tract is very deficient in irrigation, as there are no lakes, and wells are not only difficult to construct, but are very shortlived. The belt is in nowhere of any great width, and in places, particularly to the east of the Kuwana, it narrows to a single slope from the uplands to the low country on the south. This ridge of sandy *bhur* passes through the centre of tappa Bangaon and the south of Puraina in pargana Amorha, and takes up the greater portion of Khuriar and Nawai in Nagar West, where it attains its greatest breadth. In Nagar East it includes the part of Haveli to the north of the Chando Tal, a good deal of Dobakhra, and most of Kurha and Pipra. In Mahuli West it narrows to a single line of villages, but in Mahuli East it widens out again into a sandy plateau, which extends almost throughout Satahra, and takes in the adjoining villages of Chandraoti, Mahabra, Tariapar and Mandar.

The *uparhar*.

The next zone embraces the central upland plain or *uparhar*, which extends northwards to the old channel of the Rapti and includes the bulk of the Basti and Khalilabad tahsils as well as a considerable portion of Haraiya and part of Domariaganj. Its northern boundary is formed by the raised bank of the Rapti, which in the east bends southwards from the present channel of the river and is represented by a well marked cliff passing through tappa Mehndawal to the north-west corner of the Bakhira Tal. This upland plain varies in its physical characteristics to a considerable extent, but as a general rule, it may be said that

the prevailing soil is loam of a more solid description than that of the *tarhar*. Where the ground rises, the soil becomes light and sometimes sandy, while in the north and centre there are large tracts of heavy clay in which rice cultivation predominates. Further variations are caused by the numerous streams which traverse the uplands. In the Haraiya tahsil to the west of the Kuwana, is a level expanse of good rich land, broken by the Rawai, along the upper course of which *rehar* is frequently found. The Kuwana is bordered on both sides by a narrow strip of undulating land, broken by ravines and possessing a decidedly poor soil, though an improvement is to be seen in Rasulpur to the north. East of the Kuwana lies a broad belt of rich loam, including the south of Rasulpur and most of the Basti tahsil as far east as the Katnehia. Along the upper course of this stream the soil becomes a hard clay, in places of the extremely stiff variety known as *bhaghar*, while lower down the banks rise, the ground becomes uneven, and the soil light. Beyond the Katnehia the loam tract continues as far as the Gorakhpur boundary, at any rate in the southern portions of the uplands, while in the north there is an extensive stretch of stiff clay, comprising tappa Umra of Basti East and the bulk of Maghar West. This clay tract changes beyond the Ami into a light loam which extends to the northern and eastern edge of the *uparhar*. In its lower reaches the Ami flows in a deep bed, with broken and undulating land along its banks.

The Rapti valley.

The northern half of the district is of a more complicated character and exhibits many diverse characteristics. The first of the tracts comprising this portion is that lying between the northern extremity of the *uparhar* and the river Rapti. In this the soil is of a distinctive character and known as *bhat*, a term which is here applied to the silt deposit by the river. This alluvium is of great fertility and has a remarkable power of retaining moisture; it produces all varieties of crops, even sugar-cane and poppy, without irrigation, and is especially suited for the cultivation of wheat. The presence of this *bhat* is marked everywhere by the spontaneous growth of *bhang* or hemp. Being light and often sandy in appearance, and at the same time requiring neither irrigation nor manure, its cultivation is very profitable.

The *bhat* tract proper is a narrow strip along the bank of the river, generally consisting of no more than a single line of villages; but to the east of Bansi it widens out and occupies most of the land between the old channels of the Rapti, attaining a breadth of about eight miles. Where it occurs at a distance from the river, however, and is no longer moistened by the annual floods, it loses something of its exceptional character and requires artificial watering. In the west, between the *bhat* and the uplands, is a strip of poor land containing a good deal of *rehar*. This roughly follows the line of the road from Bansi to Domariaganj. In the centre it is slightly raised and forms the watershed between the systems of the Rapti in the north and of the Kuwana and Ami on the south; but in pargana Bansi the raised ridge is replaced by a line of *jhils*, of which the largest is the Pathra Tal. South of this inferior strip the land merges gradually into the clay soils of the *uparhar*, and in the centre of Rasulpur there is much rice land of an excellent quality; though further east in pargana Bansi the soil becomes lighter and in places is uneven. This is particularly the case in the tappas of Kesarha and Gulaur, where drainage channels and depressions alternate with ridges, in which the soil is generally light and often infected with *usar*.

The northern *kachhar*.

To the north of the Rapti lies a broad stretch of rice land which, though at a greater elevation than the rest of the district, is far more moist owing to the heavier rainfall and a somewhat imperfect system of drainage. This tract is divided into two parts by a depressed belt of *kachhar*, which follows the course of the Banganga and Burhi Rapti rivers. At first this low land is confined to a narrow strip along the latter stream, but subsequently widens out and includes most of the land between the old channel of the Rapti and the Bilar, thus comprising the large tappas of Dabra and Hata, as well as portions of many others. The greater part of this *kachhar* is inundated in most years, and after heavy rain only a few elevated spots on which the villages are built remain visible above the flood. The soil in this tract is generally *bhat*, but it varies in character, as the deposits left by the Burhi Rapti and the Bilar sometimes degenerate into pure sand. Its quality also depends on the level;

for on the higher ground it is a good light soil, but in the hollows it becomes a very stiff clay, which is sometimes irrigated and produces fair crops of wheat and barley, but is never so productive as the upland *bhat*. The latter, and notably in tappa Hata, bears magnificent *rabi* harvests, which to a large extent compensate for the precariousness of the *kharif*. The only portion of this tract which escapes inundation is tappa Chaur, in which the soil is entirely *bhat*, though raised above the level of the *kachhar* proper. The raising of this portion is of comparatively recent date and is due to the action of the Rapti.

The western *tarai*.

To the west of this shallow basin, in the Domariaganj tahsil, we find a rich stretch of clay soil comprising the two large tappas of Awainia and Budhi, as well as portions of Kop and Khankot. To the east of these the ground rises gradually, and the soil becomes lighter, though clay still predominates. The change is marked by the increase of *rabi* cultivation and the substitution of sugarcane and poppy for rice. Along the streams the ground is often poor and uneven, and in the neighbourhood of the Sikri and Parasi a good deal of *rehar* is to be found; but the chief drawback to this tract is its liability to flooding, accompanied by changes in the shallow channels of the river. To the extreme north lie the two tappas of Dhebarua and Khajahni, which form a continuation of the Nepal Tarai and consist of a stretch of valuable rice land intersected by a number of hill streams and almost devoid of trees.

The eastern *tarai*.

Beyond the lowlying *kachhar* to the east lies a rich expanse of country of a more diverse appearance; the villages become more numerous and frequent groves take the place of the bare rice fields. The soil is still chiefly clay, and in the north rice is the most important staple; but the *rabi* crops are more largely grown, and in the southern portion there is a fair amount of loam soil of a fertile character, which as it approaches the Bilar merges into *bhat*. This tract is crossed by numerous rivers and streams, many of which are liable to overflow their banks in the rains; but the area thus affected is small, and in many places all danger of inundation has been averted by protective works constructed

by the European proprietors who own large estates in this part of the country.

Soils.

From the foregoing account some idea will have been gained of the prevailing classes of soil found in the district. In the three southern tahsils of Haraiya, Basti, and Khalilabad, the prevailing form is loam, while in the north the area of clay approximates in extent to that of loam, and in the two parganas of Bansi West and Binayakpur clay is in marked excess. The area of sandy soil is nowhere very considerable, but it is largest in the high ridge overlooking the Ghagra lowlands. For the whole district, loam or *doras*, as it is here called, constitutes 65 per cent., clay or *matiar* 27 per cent., and *balua* or sand 4 per cent., the remainder being entered as *kachhar*. This classification omits *bhat*, which is included under one or other of the three main soils according to its consistency. It also fails to discriminate *kapsa*, a kind of poor clay of a reddish colour, which rapidly dries after rain and requires a constant supply of water. The division, too, is faulty in that it treats *kachhar* as a natural soil, whereas in reality the term is applied to land lying in the bed of a river, in contradistinction to the upland, generically known as *bangar*. To the people, however, the only familiar classification of soils, apart from that denoting their position relative to the river, is that depending on their situation with regard to the village site. The belt of land immediately surrounding the homestead is termed *goind*, corresponding to the *gauhan* and *bara* of other districts; while next comes the *miyana* or *manjhar*, the middle zone, which lies between the highly manured and cultivated home lands and the inferior outlying fields; and lastly the *palo* or distant lands, known elsewhere as *har*. It has been noticed that in this district the villagers frequently omit the *miyana* in talking of their holdings, and it has been assigned as a reason that the smallness of the villages in this district leave no room for a middle zone. It is on this classification that rents are mainly based, and in this connection the inherent character of the soil is taken into less account than its artificial advantages, combined with special rates for special crops.

Rivers.

The river system of the district has to some extent been described already, but a more detailed account may be given of

the larger streams. The two main drainage lines of Basti are the Ghagra and the Rapti, both of which form ultimately a part of the great Gangetic system. The Ghagra drains all the south of the district by means of its affluents, though the amount of surplus water received by the river directly is very small. The Rapti performs a similar duty for the north, but in this case also the work is chiefly done by the tributary streams, and it is not till the river reaches to within a short distance of the eastern boundary that it gains in volume to any appreciable extent.

The Ghagra, or Gogra, the great river of northern Oudh, is formed of the combined waters of the Kauriala, Girwa, Chauka, and other streams, which have their origin in the mountains of Kumaun and Nepal. The name Ghagra is very often applied to the Kauriala in the Bahraich and Kheri districts, but it more properly becomes known by this appellation after its junction with the Chauka near Bahramghat in Bara Banki. From that point it separates the latter district and Fyzabad on the south from Gonda and Basti on the north, forming the southern boundary of this district from its entry opposite the sacred city of Ajodhya, where for a short distance it is usually known as the Sarju, as far as Belghat on the borders of Gorakhpur. The river flows in a continually shifting channel within a broad sandy bed, fully four miles in width. During the rains it carries an immense volume of water, but in the dry weather it shrinks to comparatively small dimensions, and numerous sandbanks appear in all parts of the stream, while on either side are to be seen low sandy stretches known as *manjhas*, covered with a thick growth of tamarisk, and elsewhere, in those places which have received a sufficient deposit of silt, cultivated. As already mentioned, the river has a constant tendency to change its course during the annual floods, and in this manner large tracts of land from time to time are transferred either to the northern or southern banks, rendering the total area of the district subject to incessant variation. These changes have occasionally been accompanied by the formation of large islands, and as the deep stream rule prevails, the constant shifting of the jurisdiction of such lands from one district to another results in considerable inconvenience. In other parts of Basti the more general rule prevails that the deep

Ghagra.

stream is ordinarily the boundary, and that land gradually thrown up by a river belongs to that estate to which it has accrued; but that land severed by a sudden change of channel and still capable of recognition belongs to the estate from which it has been divided. Reference has been made to the fact that in former times the Ghagra flowed much further to the north, and it seems certain that at one period it took much the same course as that now followed by the Manwar and the Kuwana in its lower reaches. The intermediate channels are traced in the long narrow lakes like those of Sikandarpur, Pachwas, Amorha and Chaparthala; in the sandhills which occur here and there in the *tarhar;* and in the names of villages where there was once a ferry, such as Gaighat and Dhanghata. There are no large towns or important markets on the Ghagra in this district, and the river is nowhere bridged, even temporarily. The crossing is effected by means of several ferries, to which reference will be made in the following chapter.

Its tributaries.

The Ghagra receives directly hardly any of the drainage of Basti, as except in the immediate neighbourhood of its banks all the surplus water is intercepted by its affluents. Occasionally the river overflows its banks and submerges the adjoining lowlands, with the result that water is actually transferred from the river to the Manwar or Kuwana. This happened in 1870, causing an unusually heavy flood on the Manwar, while the result of similar action lower down is to be seen in the Malda or Banpur Sota, a cross-channel which connects the Ghagra with the Kuwana and came into existence about 50 years ago. This is now a broad river-bed, and the result of the union is that the Kuwana from this point becomes practically an arm of the Ghagra; so that when the latter is in flood it causes much inundation in the two parganas of Mahuli by holding up the stream of the Kuwana; and it is particularly in this part of its course that the Ghagra is liable to cause serious damage.

Kuwana.

The Kuwana, frequently written Kuano, rises in the low ground in the east of the Bahraich district, and thence flows through the centre of Gonda. It first touches Basti in the extreme west of pargana Rasulpur, and for some 16 miles forms the boundary of the district. It then separates the Basti East

pargana from Basti West, Nagar West and Nagar East, and after passing through Mahuli West and Mahuli East leaves the district in the south-eastern corner, a short distance from its junction with the Ghagra in Gorakhpur. The river, while it flows through the *uparhar* or central uplands, has firm and high banks on either side, and in no part of its course is liable to change. Lower down, at Lalganj, where it receives the Manwar, the bed becomes sandy, the banks more sloping, and the channel shifting; and these characteristics become more markedly defined when the river is met by the Malda or connecting link with the Ghagra. The Kuwana has a considerable depth at all seasons of the year and is navigable throughout the district, although in its upper reaches the river is narrow and winding, and the channel is obstructed in places by sandbanks and also by temporary pile bridges.

The Kuwana has several tributaries in this district, although but few are of any size or importance. Of those that join it on the right or west bank the first is the Rawai, a small stream which rises in the north of pargana Amorha, and thence flows between steep and sandy banks, frequently infected with *reh*, through the western half of pargana Basti West, subsequently separating the latter from Nagar West for a short distance, and ultimately joining the Kuwana between Ganeshpur and the bridge on the provincial road. Rawai.

The Manwar, or Manarama, rises in pargana Gonda of the Gonda district and flows in an easterly direction along the edge of the Sikri forest to the Basti boundary. For a short distance it separates the latter district from Gonda, and is then joined by the Chamnai, a small and sluggish stream. After the junction the Manwar bends to the south-east and flows through the centre of pargana Amorha, on the eastern boundary of which it receives a small tributary called the Ramrekha on its right or southern bank. It then passes through the two parganas of Nagar, and joins the Kuwana in Lalganj in Mahuli West. The Manwar is a fairly well-defined river, attaining considerable dimensions in the rains. In most parts of its course the banks are shelving, and the land on either side is remarkable for its fertility. It is navigable by boats of small tonnage as far as Haraiya, but the channel is winding and in places very narrow. Manwar.

Katnehia.

The only tributary of any importance that is received by the Kuwana on its left bank is the Katnehia, which rises in the swamps to the north of Basti East and flows in a south-easterly direction towards the boundary of pargana Nagar East, where it unites with the Garehia, a similar stream which has its origin in the south of Rasulpur. Their combined waters continue in a south-easterly direction along the borders of the Nagar East and Mahuli West parganas, then turning south to join the Kuwana at Mukhlispur in Mahuli East. Except in times of flood the river is of insignificant dimensions, being a mere channel in the centre of a broad depression. Both the Garehia and the Katnehia in the upper part of its course flow through a stiff clay soil, but lower down in the Khalilabad tahsil the banks rise and the soil becomes light and sandy.

Rapti.

Beyond the valley of the Garehia the rivers and streams belong to the second great system, that of the Rapti. This river rises in the Nepal hills to the north of Bahraich, and after a course of about 81 miles from that district traverses the northern portion of Gonda and first touches Basti in the north-west of pargana Rasulpur, close to the village of Singarjot and the ferry known as Materia-ghat. It thence bends southwards, but in a very tortuous course, and for some distance forms the boundary of the district, but from its junction with the Suwawan, a small river of Gonda, it turns east and flows through pargana Rasulpur, past Domariaganj and Gaura Bazar. Thence entering Bansi East, it maintains generally the same direction and leaves the district on the eastern border, a few miles south of Uska. The river reappears in pargana Nagar East, for some distance flowing along the boundary before finally passing into Gorakhpur. As far as Bansi, the course of the Rapti in this district lies through comparatively high ground and the variations in its channel are but trifling; but east of that town the alterations have been very considerable. At the time of the survey in 1837 the Rapti flowed south-east from Bansi along the southern borders of the Chaur and Hata tappas; but about 1855 it suddenly altered its course from the north-east and broke into the Ahwa *nala*, then a small tributary of the Banganga, and now flows through the low ground of Chaur and Hata in the channels of these two streams.

The old bed still exists, but only contains water during the rains, except for a few miles above Karmaini-ghat, where there is still a slight current. This change was only one of many that had occurred. There is a tradition that the river formerly flowed in what is now the bed of the Barar, the tributary of the Ami; and it appears very possible that the latter also represents an abandoned course of the same river. At other times the Rapti has assumed a more northerly channel, as is evident from the very name of the Burhi Rapti or old Rapti. In the northern half of the district there is scarcely any portion of the surface on which the river and its tributaries have not been at work at one time or another, and it is to this fact that the differences of soil are mainly due. The Rapti brings down with it an immense quantity of silt known as *bhat*, and one result of this is that the stream in places has gradually raised its bed above the level of the surrounding country; so that a heavy flood may easily result in the adoption of a fresh channel. Another consequence of this phenomenon is that the banks of silt prevent any of the local drainage from flowing directly into the river. On the south, all the country right up to the Rapti is drained by the Ami and the Kuwana, which also carry off much of the spill from the greater river when it overflows its banks. Similarly on the north, the drainage finds its way, not into the Rapti, but into the Parasi, Burhi Rapti, and other streams. The river, in Basti as in the districts higher up, has an exceedingly tortuous course, being a succession of loops and bends. Its length in this district is about 84 miles, but the distance in a straight line is no more than 48 miles. These loops are especially noticeable to the west of Bansi, and there the tendency of the river to straighten its course, by cutting through the necks of the peninsulas and developing a fresh bend on the other side, has resulted in the formation of deep lakes, generally of a horse-shoe shape, and known as *naukhans*, all along its course. The Rapti, which is a navigable river, is nowhere bridged in this district, the passage being effected by means of ferries.

The tributaries and affluents of the Rapti are very numerous, especially those on the northern or left bank. Those on the south represent merely old beds of the river, and as such are of Ami.

little importance, save as local drainage channels. The chief of these is the Ami, a stream which commences a short distance from the Rapti in pargana Rasulpur and issues from a large tract of rice land. At first it is very inconspicuous, but gradually assumes a defined channel, flowing through tracts of stiff clay and barren *usar*. For a short distance separating Rasulpur from Bansi West, it passes into Maghar West, there receiving a small tributary on its right bank near Banskhor; this is known as the Reruwa and rises in the depression to the west of Rudhauli. On the eastern borders of the pargana the Ami is joined by the Barar, another old channel of the Rapti, which flows in a wide bed from the direction of Bankata, and is reinforced by a similar stream named the Budha, which starts to the west of Bansi. After joining the Barar, the bed of the Ami deepens and becomes wider, while the land on either side is broken and undulating, rising high above the river and scored by the deep channels of the many tributary watercourses. From the junction the Ami passes through Maghar East, and for some miles forms the boundary of the district. At the point of exit it is joined on the south by the Khudwa *nala*, which rises to the north of Mirganj, and the combined waters pass into the Gorakhpur district to join the Rapti. The Ami, which has a length of some 44 miles in Basti, is bridged on the railway and the provincial road, and also on that from Basti to Bansi.

Burhi Rapti.

The Burhi, or old, Rapti first makes its appearance on the western borders of the Gonda district and flows in an easterly direction through the Balrampur and Tulsipur parganas, receiving the drainage from numberless small streams which come down from the outer hills and the forests which clothe them. It enters the Basti district near the village of Biskohar, and subsequently forms the northern boundary of pargana Bansi west as far as its junction with the Arrah. From that point it passes through the eastern half of the pargana, and then bends to the south-east, uniting with the Rapti in tappa Hata, about seven miles to the east of Bansi. The point of junction is at all times liable to change, depending especially on the action of the Banganga, and, as has already been mentioned, the former course of the Burhi Rapti is now adopted by the main stream. Throughout its

course in this district the Burhi Rapti appears to have an eastward tendency, but to be diverted from time to time by the hill torrents which come rushing into it at right angles. The result is that as the river flows through a tract of *kachhar* or low ground with a very friable soil, its course is tortuous in the extreme, consisting of a series of abrupt turns, with scarcely a straight reach anywhere. All along its length is to be seen a maze of *naukhans* or old channels, similar to those along the Rapti.

The tributaries of the Burhi Rapti are very numerous, and only the more important need be mentioned. Those on the right or southern bank carry off the drainage from the north of Rasulpur and the south of Bansi West; while those on the north are hill torrents, which come down in sudden rushes after a heavy fall of rain, while at other times only a thin stream of water is left to trickle over a broad sandy bed. Of the former the most important is the Parasi, which rises near Tilakpur and flows along the southern boundary of Bansi West, thence passing into the low ground in the neighbourhood of Chaur Tal; from this point one branch pours into the Rapti to the south, near Narkatha, while another leads eastward into the Burhi Rapti. The Parasi has several small affluents, the first being the Sakrahwa *nala*, which carries off the drainage from the Leond Tal in tappa Awainia; a second is a small channel running southward from Intwa; and a third is known as the Akrari. The last rises in the Akrari Tal, a short distance to the north of Domariaganj, and after flowing past Chaukhara turns eastwards and falls into the Parasi near Khaira. Parasi.

A second and very similar tributary of the Burhi Rapti on the same bank is the Sikri, which rises near Budhi in the extreme west of Bansi West, and flows through the middle of that pargana as far as Kathela; it then turns to the south for some miles, and again to the east, joining the Burhi Rapti at Misraulia. Sikri.

Of the northern streams, the first is the Arrah, which, after issuing from the hills, divides the Nepalese from the Oudh Tarai and forms for about seven miles the boundary between this district and Gonda, joining the Burhi Rapti a short distance to the Hill torrents.

east of Khankot. To the east of the Arrah are the Chhagrihwa, Ghurai, Awinda or Aundahi, the Sarohi, and its tributaries the Karma, Sotwa or Satohi, and the Kanchani. All these, and several others, flow through the rice country of the Dhebarua and Khajahni tappas, and are all of a very similar character. Their channels are seldom well-defined, especially as they approach the Burhi Rapti, and in many places their deserted beds have formed into marshes and lakes.

Banganga. The next stream is the Banganga, a river of considerable dimensions. Rising in the Nepal Tarai, it enters this district near Jharua, and for some distance separates Bansi East from Bansi West. At Antri it enters the former pargana and thence flows in the southern direction past Pipri and Kakrahi, where it now joins the Burhi Rapti. In former days the Banganga united with the Burhi Rapti at the northern end of tappa Dabra, and the point of junction is at any time liable to change as the result of the heavy floods brought down by the streams, which frequently submerge the whole country from Kakrahi southwards to the Rapti.

Jamuwar. The country to the east of the Banganga is drained by another series of hill streams, which are no less perplexing in their ramifications and constant liability to change. The first of any importance is the Jamuwar, which shortly after its entry into the district, is fed by two small tributaries known as the Musai, Mahsai, or Masdi, and the Doi, which falls into the river near Alidapur. Further south, at Naugarh, the Jamuwar receives on its left bank the Budhiar, the name given to the combined waters of the Mekhra and Ghaghuwa, which drain the Birdpur and Neora grants. Five miles south, at Karchhulia, the Jamuwar falls into the Kunhra, shortly after its junction with the Dubai, a small stream rising to the west of Naugarh.

Kunhra. The Kunhra is a deeper and more clearly defined stream, which flows through the Dundwa range, past the Nepalese town of Butwal, and enters pargana Binayakpur near the village of Khairanti. Flowing through the pargana to its western boundary, it is there joined by the Tilar, which again is reinforced by the Siswa and Marti, small Tarai streams of a similar nature.

From the junction the Kunhra forms the boundary between Bansi West and Binayakpur, receiving the Hagni and other minor affluents on its west bank. Continuing southwards, it passes Sohas, and after uniting with the Jamuwar flows through the town of Uska to join the Rapti.

Ghunghi.

Mention may also be made of another tributary of the Kunhra known as the Ghunghi, which for many miles forms the boundary between this district and Gorakhpur, and rises in the lower range of hills above the Nepal Tarai. The united waters of the Ghunghi and Kunhra generally go by the name of Dhamela, and this appellation is commonly given to the Rapti itself, in that portion of its course in which it follows the channel formerly taken by the Burhi Rapti, as far as the point where the river resumes its old bed at Karmaini-ghat in tappa Mehndawal.

This account of the rivers in the north of Basti is necessarily brief and incomplete, as it would not be possible to mention the many smaller streams, as well as the old river beds, which in the form of long, narrow, winding *tals*, silted up channels or *sois*, or mere depressions, are to be found in almost every part. The Suhela tappa, for example, which lies between the Kunhra and the Ghunghi, is intersected by a multitude of such old channels; nearly the whole of it is subject to inundation every year, and until the floods subside it is not possible to ascertain which course the rivers will have adopted for themselves.

Lakes and *jhils*.

The lakes and *jhils* of the district are extremely numerous, and several of them are of considerable size. As already mentioned, they are most commonly formed by changes in the river channels, while in other cases the natural depressions in which the surface water collects and forms extensive lagoons, are generally due in some measure to fluvial action. The largest and most celebrated lake in Basti, if not in the whole of the United Provinces, is the Bakhira or Badhanchh Tal, sometimes called the Moti Jhil, which lies on the eastern borders of the district between Bakhira and Mehndawal in pargana Maghar East. This lake, though seldom more than four or five feet in depth, covers a very large area, about five miles long and two broad. On the west and south the banks are sloping, and the fringe of marsh

is but slight; but on the north and east a low fen stretches for two or three miles and is regularly inundated during the rains. The water in the lake is largely derived from the overflow from the Rapti, and is prevented from escaping by an embankment along the eastern side. The Pathra Tal is an irregular piece of water, over three miles in length, on the borders of the Rasulpur and Bansi East parganas, a short distance to the south of the Rapti. It is the property of the Raja of Bansi, as also is the Chaur Tal, to the north of the river. Both of these have been embanked for irrigation purposes. In the south of the district the most noticeable lake is the Chando Tal, lying between the two parganas of Nagar. This is a stretch of water about two and a half miles long and a mile broad; it has regularly sloping sides, except at the eastern end, where the water escapes to join the Manwar. These and the many other lakes and *jhils* are of considerable value for irrigation purposes, and combine to render Basti famous for the excellence of its wild-fowl shooting.

Drainage.

On the other hand, their presence serves to show that the natural drainage of the district is far from perfect. In almost all parts the area liable to flooding is very large, with the result that considerable damage is apt to be done to the crops, while at the same time the effect on the general health of the tract is very marked. In the south, the two parganas of Mahuli are liable to inundation from the flood waters of the Ghagra, where they pour into the Kuwana through the cross-channel, and all along the alluvial tract of the Ghagra there are depressions full of ponds and marshes. Similarly in the north, the greater part of the low-lying *kachhar*, which extends along the course of the Burhi Rapti from the north-west corner of the district as far as the Bakhira Tal, is inundated every year, and the extent of the floods may be estimated from the fact that communication by boat is open between Bansi and Kakrahi, six miles across country, during the rains. Similar, but less extensive, floods occur along the course of the Banganga, but the area so affected is not nearly so large as in the north of the Domariaganj tahsil, where the rice tracts of tappa Awainia are frequently submerged by the escape of the flood waters of the Rapti through gaps in the banks,

and again where the changes in the course of the Burhi Rapti have resulted in still more serious inundations in the central hollow of tappa Budhi. The changes in the course of the hill streams in Dhebarua and Khajahni very often cause extensive flooding, and the results are doubly obnoxious: not only are the rice crops damaged by the rush of water, but the fertile clay soil is apt to be overlaid with a deposit of barren sand. Very few attempts have been made to remedy such defects of drainage. In some parts of the district embankments have been constructed with the object of restraining the floods, and an example of these is to be found in Budhi, where they are a fruitful source of disputes, inasmuch as they protect some villages to the detriment of others. In the tappas of Birdpur, Bhatinpar, and Untapar the overflow of the Tilar, Kunhra, and Ghunghi rivers is shut out by massive embankments constructed by the European proprietors who own large estates in this part of the country. In the floods of 1888, however, and again in 1903, the embankments gave way, and great damage was caused in the more lowlying estates. One of these protective works in the shape of a dam thrown across the north of tappa Untapar by the proprietor of Sarauli has resulted in a change in the course of the Ghunghi.

Precarious tracts.

The whole of the land thus liable to inundation is naturally precarious, as the *kharif* crops are always in danger of being destroyed, and a continuance of the floods is apt to interfere with the cold weather sowing. The latter constitutes the more serious danger, as apart from this, the floods are generally more beneficial than otherwise, as they perpetually enrich and refreshen the soil. The lowlying tracts moreover gain a considerable advantage in dry years, as was the case in 1897; and on the whole it may be said that serious damage only occurs when the inundations are unusually extensive. On the other hand, the great dependence of the district on the rice crop renders it very sensitive to the effects of an early cessation of the rains, which result not only in the partial and complete loss of the *kharif*, but also in the contraction of the *rabi* area. In the past, however, the results of drought have not been serious, owing to the ease with which irrigation is generally obtainable; but a tract which is bound to suffer on such an occasion is the

sandy belt described above as the *uparhar* edge. Another portion of the district which is in some degree precarious is that immediately adjoining the forest tracts of Gonda, where wild cattle, pig and other animals are apt to do extensive damage to the growing crops. The part so affected is mainly confined to portions of the Sikandarpur and Bangaon tappas of pargana Amorha.

Barren land.

The area classed as barren and unfit for cultivation amounts at the present time to 179,377 acres, or roughly one-tenth of the whole district. Only a small proportion of this, however, can properly be regarded as barren land, inasmuch as 51,869 acres are occupied by roads, village sites and buildings, and at the same time no less than 110,319 acres are under water. This submerged area, covered by lakes, streams, marshes, ponds and tanks, is fairly equally divided among all the tahsils, the greatest proportion being found in Khalilabad, with 25,334 acres and the lowest in Haraiya with 16,036 acres. Excluding these, there remain but 17,189 acres classified as actually barren, or less than one per cent. of the total area of the district. The largest amount of such land is to be found in the Haraiya tahsil, and the smallest in Domariaganj; but as a matter of fact this total does not accurately represent all the land that should come under this category, as it is customary to treat as barren only that which is covered with scrub jungle or long grass, the rest being usually entered under the column of old fallow. Owing to this practice and the constant changes that have occurred in the classification of uncultivated land, it is impossible to arrive at a reliable comparison between the amount of barren waste at present to be found and that recorded at former settlements.

Jungles.

The total, too, is exclusive of the jungle area, which amounts to about 54,000 acres and is fairly evenly divided between the different tahsils. In former days a large part of the district was covered with forest of *sal* and other trees, but since the introduction of British rule almost the whole of this has disappeared and given place to cultivation. The clearance was effected mainly by the grant of jungle tracts to various individuals, chiefly Europeans, the condition of such grants being the reclamation of a certain proportion of the land so given. In

this manner more than one hundred thousand acres of forest were converted into cultivated fields, and now only a few remnants of the ancient woodland are to be found in the north of the district, and even these contain no valuable timber. The largest of these patches is to be found at Chhitia in the Bansi tahsil, and affords a good idea of the appearance of the district in olden days. But of the forests described by Buchanan hardly a vestige is left. The two long stunted jungles of Mahuli are now represented merely by a strip of *dhak* which has been left in a tract of *usar* land to the north of the Kuwana, and by small patches which have been preserved in many of the villages for the sake of fuel. The once extensive forest in pargana Basti has been reduced to a narrow fringe along the banks of the same river, while the woods that border the Ami and Budha streams have for the most part been cleared, though there still remains a certain proportion of scrub jungle in the broken ground along these channels. In pargana Rasulpur scanty remains of *sal* forest exist along the Kuwana and in places the Burhi Rapti, the Parasi, and the Sikri are similarly fringed with the remains of a once extensive jungle. Though the district is no longer rich in valuable timber, it can still be described as well wooded, owing to the numerous clumps of mango, *mahua* and bamboo, which surround almost every village site, except in the rice fields in the north, where the heavy clay soil is unfavourable to the growth of trees.

Groves.

Apart from the natural forests and woodlands there is a very considerable area under artificial groves. These consist for the most part of mango and *mahua* trees, although the latter are not usually planted, their reproduction being left to nature. In the abundance of *mahua* trees Basti closely resembles Gonda, and as in that district their presence gives an appreciable value to the waste lands. The total area of the groves at the last settlements was 50,299 acres. Since that time there has been a slight decrease, the amount in 1905 being 49,700 acres or 2·8 per cent. of the whole district. The proportion is fairly high, although exceeded in several districts of Oudh; it is greatest in the Khalilabad tahsil, where it amounts to 3·2 per cent. and least in the two northern subdivisions of Bansi and

Domariaganj, where, owing to the presence of natural jungle and also to the character of the soil, it is not more than 2·4 per cent.

Minerals.

As in the other plains districts of the provinces, the mineral products of Basti are but scanty, and consist of little else besides the conglomerate limestone known as *kankar*. This is to be found in many parts, and varies both in quality and value. As a general rule the *kankar* of the district resembles a soft marl and is of more value for the production of lime than as a road metal. The best is that quarried in tappa Manwarpara of pargana Nagar, along the banks of the Manwar, as it there takes the form of hard nodules of an excellent quality. Several varieties of *kankar* are locally recognised, but they are distinguished rather on account of their colour than of their composition. These include the *telia* or dark; the *sufed*, *dudhia*, or *chun*, that is to say, white, milky, or lime-coloured; the *balua* or *dhusrehwa*, so called because found in sandy or saline soil; and the *bichhua* or scorpion-shaped, a name which is common in many other districts. The price of *kankar* depends on its solidity, the best fetching about Re. 1-12-0 per hundred cubic feet at the quarry; while, as usual, the most important item is the cost of carriage, which ranges from eight to 12 annas per mile. Lime made from *kankar* is sold at rates ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 16 per hundred cubic feet, the latter price being charged when charcoal is employed in the burning. Another and very excellent kind of lime is that obtained from shells, which are collected by Lunias on the banks of streams and lakes, notably the Ami, Manwar, aud Kuwana rivers and the great Bakhira Tal. Such lime, when prepared from the larger varieties of shells, known as *sip*, is employed for the finest kind of cement work, and fetches about Rs. 3 per maund.

Bricks.

Brick earth is obtainable in most parts of the district, and kilns for making bricks are to be found in all the larger villages. The kind most commonly employed in the construction of dwelling-houses is the sun-dried or *kachcha* brick; this is of two sizes, the larger or *guma* selling at the rate of about 2,000, and the smaller or *gumi* at about 4,000 to the rupee. Burnt bricks used to be made in native kilns of five different sizes, but the general tendency at the present time is to use bricks of the

Public Works department pattern, of which the standard measure is $9'' \times 4\frac{3}{8}'' \times 2\frac{3}{4}''$. First class bricks of this description cost Rs. 10 per thousand, those of the second class Rs. 9 and those of the third class Rs. 8. The bricks are burnt with fuel obtained locally, chiefly that of the mango, tamarind and the various figs, whose wood is of little use for other purposes. Brick-dust or *surkhi*, an ingredient in plaster and the like, is either ground from brickbats in a kind of circular mill or else burnt from kiln-earth. If prepared in the former manner it fetches from Rs. 9 to Rs. 12 and even more for a hundred cubic feet, according to quality; but when made of kiln-earth burnt with refuse the price is no more than Rs. 6. Tiles for roofing also are largely manufactured by the Kumhars. The flat variety costs about double the price of the round, while in the rains the price of all tiles rises to nearly twice the usual amount. Those of the best quality fetch on an average Rs. 4 per thousand, and tiling with such material costs some eight annas per hundred square feet.

Other building materials.

Among the timbers used in building are those of the *mahua*, *jamun* and mango trees, which are sold in bulk for about eight annas a cubic foot, but when hewn into scantlings cost from 12 annas to Re. 1. The *mahua* usually fetches a better price than the others, but the wood of all three is liable to decay owing to the dampness of the climate and the ravages of white ants. On this account the scarcity of good *sal* timber is to be regretted. Logs of fair quality can be obtained from the small Chhitia forest in Bansi, but most of the *sal* required has to be imported from Gorakhpur or Bahramghat. It is generally sold in beams known as *silli*, or in blocks called *latta*, the latter containing four beams each. These are not, however, definite measures, as the dimensions continually vary; the price of blocks ranges from Rs. 20 to Rs. 80. When hewn and sold by the cubic foot, good *sal* timber costs from Rs. 3-8-0 to Rs. 4. Bamboos, which are used extensively, are obtainable everywhere, the larger kinds being purchased for Rs. 20 and the smaller for Rs. 12 or Rs. 15 per hundred.

Wild animals.

In former days, when much of the country was still under forest, the district was rich in large game. Even in 1813, when Buchanan visited Basti, the northern parganas

were the haunt of tigers, leopards, bears and even buffalo, while spotted deer, hyænas, and other animals, which are now either extinct or extremely rare, were common in many parts. The disappearance of the forests, resulting from the grants of waste land and jungle, brought about an immediate change, and at the present time the larger carnivora, the buffalo and the *chital* are practically unknown. The wild animals that remain include the *nilgai*, antelope, pig, wolves, jackals, foxes, hares, monkeys, the wild cat and the porcupine; but even these have been greatly reduced in numbers during the past few decades. At one time antelope were so numerous as to constitute a positive danger, and in 1813 a thousand head might be seen in a day. Wolves, too, swarmed in the *manjha* along the Ghagra; but they are now comparatively rare, and very few are produced for the payment of the Government reward for their destruction. The reptiles of the district include snakes of several descriptions; the Indian crocodile or *nak*, which is common in the Ghagra, Rapti, and other rivers, and also in the larger lakes, especially the Bakhira Tal; and the long-nosed variety called the *ghariyal*, which is similarly distributed.

Birds.

The gamebirds of the district include the usual varieties found throughout the plains. Among them mention may be made of peafowl, which are usually accounted sacred and therefore preserved from destruction; the grey and black partridge, the quail, the ortolan and snipe, the last being cold-weather migrants. Basti is famous for the number and variety of the water-fowl which visit it during the winter months. Geese of several species, many kinds of duck, widgeon, pochards, teal, sheldrakes, grebes and coots abound in the lakes, descending from the Himalayas and Tibet on the approach of winter, and returning with the advent of early summer. Large numbers are captured by native netters, chiefly Bahelias and Pasis. They are sold alive, and there is practically no trade in skins and feathers, except in the case of peacocks' feathers, which find a ready sale and are made up as fans.

Fish.

The fisheries of the district are of considerable value and importance. Fish of almost all the varieties that occur elsewhere in the provinces are to be found in the rivers and lakes, and form

a favourite article of diet with most classes of the population. At the last census, fishermen and fish-dealers together with dependents, numbered 4,351 persons—a figure which was only exceeded in the neighbouring and larger district of Gorakhpur. They belong chiefly to the castes of Mallahs and Chains, who are boatmen by profession, Kewats, Goriyas, Kahars and Pasis; but the practice is far from being confined to these castes, as the majority of the cultivators betake themselves to fishing when opportunity offers. Fish are either sold in the bazar for local consumption, or else are roughly and imperfectly cured by drying or smoking, and are exported to Nepal. The latter practice is very extensively followed in the case of the fisheries on the Rapti and in the north of the district generally. The implements in use comprise the rod and line, nets of various shapes and sizes, and several forms of wicker traps and baskets, the most common of which is the well-known *tapa*. Occasionally poisoning is resorted to, a portion of a river or lake being enclosed in a frame-work of bamboos, within which pieces of the bark of the wild fig are thrown. In the Bakhira Tal large number of fish are caught by spearing, as the bottom is too weedy to admit of the successful use of nets. During the rains, when the fish leave the rivers and the deeper pools, they are trapped by means of mud embankments thrown across the outlet of the rice field or *jhil*; the water is then drained off and finally baled out, leaving the fish helplessly floundering in the mud.

The domestic animals of Basti are of the usual inferior type found in most of the plains districts of the provinces. There is no special local breed, although the cattle of Mahuli have a certain reputation; they are of small size, but are very strong and enduring. The better varieties are imported from the forest districts of Bahraich and Kheri. In former days herds of wild cattle were to be found in the jungles along the Kuwana in pargana Rasulpur and also in tappa Atrawal of Nagar; but these, as in Gonda, were merely the descendants of domestic animals that had escaped, and at the present time they have completely disappeared. The price of an ordinary pair of plough-bullocks ranges from Rs. 20 to Rs. 40, but much larger amounts are paid for those employed for burden or for draught purposes. At the Cattle.

time of the last settlement the estimated number of plough-animals in the district was 495,574, giving an average of 2·16 animals for a plough. A more accurate enumeration was made at the cattle census of 1899, which showed a total of 479,436 plough-animals, including male buffaloes, but leaving young stock out of account. This gave an average of 2·28 animals per plough or somewhat less than the general average for the province; while at the same time the average area of cultivation to each plough was somewhat under six acres, this being a comparatively light duty. The last cattle census was that of 1904, when the district contained 506,277 bulls and bullocks, 307,744 cows, 5,162 male buffaloes, 100,682 cow buffaloes, and 373,004 young stock. The increase in the five years was somewhat remarkable, and may be attributed to a series of prosperous seasons, although it was doubtless due in part to a more accurate system of record. The returns give an average of 2·24 animals per plough, the proportion having undergone little change. The number of cows and cow buffaloes is very large, and points to the importance of the *ghi* industry. During the spring and summer large numbers of cattle from this district are driven northwards to find pasture in the Nepal Tarai. They usually leave in December and return in June or July, when the advent of rains renews the supply of fodder at home. Nothing is done in the way of scientific breeding. In 1867 some Hissar bulls were imported for stud purposes in Gorakhpur and Basti, but the experiment proved a failure and has not been repeated.

Sheep and goats.

The last enumeration showed a total of 35,852 sheep and 241,092 goats, the former being most numerous in the Haraiya tahsil, and fewest in Bansi and Domariaganj; while the latter are very evenly distributed. The number of sheep is decidedly small, especially when compared with the average for the adjoining districts of Oudh. They are mainly kept by Gadariyas, and are more valued for their skins, wool and manure than for their flesh. The price of a sheep is not as a rule much more than Rs. 2, but there is a considerable demand for the wool, which is made into blankets, and for the skins, which are bought by Chamars at a rate ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per hundred. It is a common practice for landowners to permit sheep to be penned on their fields between August and November, prior to

the spring sowings, and in consideration of the manure thus obtained the herdsmen receive a small payment in kind. In 1868, an attempt was made to improve the breed by the importation of some long-wooled rams from Hissar; but the results were not satisfactory, and no further measures were taken. Goats on the other hand are comparatively numerous, the total for Basti being well above the average. They are kept by the lower castes generally, but mainly by Ahirs, Gadariyas, Chamars and Julahas. They form a fairly common article of food, but are chiefly valued for their skins, which, when tanned and cured, are put to a variety of uses, and are worth as much as the live animal.

Other animals.

The census of 1904 showed a total of 2,004 horses and 10,032 ponies. These figures are in no way remarkable, nor are the animals deserving of any notice. There has been no attempt at scientific breeding, either on the part of Government or of private owners. The ponies are of the usual wretched description, and are used for the carriage of grain and other articles. Transport is, however, more commonly effected by carts, of which the district contains a large number; they are fairly strong and well made, and good wheels are manufactured locally. Neither is it necessary to remark on the donkeys, which numbered 6,406; they are no better nor less miserable than in other districts, and are employed as beasts of burden by Kumhars, Dhobis and others. Camels are scarce, as the climate is said to be too moist for them. Elephants, on the other hand, are very numerous, and every well-to-do *zamindar* keeps one or two. They are not expensive to keep, and are almost a necessity as a means of locomotion during the rains. The usual arrangement is to give the keeper a piece of land, from which he has to find food for his beast.

Cattle disease.

The district is seldom free from the ravages of cattle disease. Rinderpest, here known as *mata*, being considered by the people as analogous to small-pox, often assumes an epidemic character during the summer months, and is very fatal in its results. Foot-and-mouth disease, too, is always common, but is not so serious, as a considerable proportion of the animals attacked recover. As in all submontane tracts, the malignant sore-throat, known as hæmorrhagic septicæmia, occurs in most years and causes heavy

mortality. In order to check the spread of cattle disease, a peripatetic veterinary assistant surgeon is attached to the district, and a second is shortly to be appointed; but so far the results have been but small, as the people generally offer a passive resistance to inoculation.

Climate. The climate of Basti somewhat resembles that of the other submontane tracts in the north of Rohilkhand and Oudh, though it is milder than is the case with the districts further west. The heat in the summer months is less extreme, and the west winds of the hot weather are but rarely experienced, and lose much of their burning force. On the other hand, the cold of the winter months is less extreme, and frosts seldom occur. The severe frost which did such widespread damage throughout the provinces in February 1905, did not indeed leave Basti untouched; but its severity was less extreme and the destruction then caused was not sufficient to render any relief measures necessary. Such an event is quite exceptional, though in all years hailstorms are a constant source of danger during the spring. For a number of years no thermometrical observations have been recorded in the district, but past experience shows that the maximum temperature is seldom more than 100° in the shade in summer, and that the minimum on few occasions falls below 50°; while even in June the nights are comparatively cool. The prevailing wind is from the east; it usually sets in during April, and combines with local thunderstorms from the hills to cool the atmosphere and preserve a tinge of verdure in the grass.

Rainfall. The rainfall is usually heavy, and this fact, combined with the proximity of the hills, tends to render the climate damp; but it is not specially unhealthy, except at the end of the rains, when the ground is drying, and the variation of the temperature, from the heat of the day to the comparative chilliness of the night, is considerable. At that season fever is prevalent, and the north of the district, at any rate, is decidedly malarious. The regular rains begin towards the end of June and continue till about the third week in September; while a final fall may be expected in the first few days of October. It is of great importance to agriculture that this last downpour, known as the *hathiya*, should be ample: for it is required not only for the late rice, but also to

moisten the ground for the *rabi* sowings and to ensure a sufficient supply of water in the lakes and *jhils* for the winter irrigation. In the cold weather there is often, though not always, a fall of rain, generally in January, but sometimes later. Such winter rains are not altogether an unmixed blessing. They improve the unirrigated crops, but when they fall heavily and late on land which has already been watered artificially they do more harm than good. Records of the rainfall are taken at the five tahsil headquarters, but the district average thus obtained fails to represent the true rainfall of the tract as a whole, inasmuch as the amount received in the extreme north is decidedly greater than that registered at Bansi or Domariaganj. Private records taken at Birdpur show an average of nearly 64 inches, while in 1889, it amounted to no less than 91 inches—a very remarkable figure for the plains. The returns go back to 1864 for Bansi, Khalilabad and Captainganj, which till 1876 was the recording station for the Haraiya tahsil; and to 1867, for Basti and Domariaganj. From 1867 to 1905 inclusive the general average was 49·46 inches, the greatest amounts being 76·32 inches in 1894, a year of general excess; 72·84 inches in 1871, when floods did extensive damage here and in northern Oudh; 68·22 inches in 1890; 67·32 inches in 1879, and 67 inches in 1903, when serious flooding again occurred in many parts. In fourteen other years the fall was above the average. The smallest amounts ever received were 23·8 inches in 1877, a year of general famine; 26 inches in 1873, resulting in scarcity throughout the eastern districts; and 29·77 inches in 1896, though on this occasion Basti suffered to a very slight extent as compared with other tracts. As already mentioned, there is a considerable variation in the distribution, the rainfall increasing directly with the latitude. Domariaganj shows an average fall of 52·42 inches, and Bansi of 51·08 inches. Basti and Khalilabad approach more closely to the general figure, with 47·88 and 48·29 inches respectively; while Haraiya obtains but 45·16 inches, in spite of the proximity of a great river like the Ghagra. The heaviest fall recorded at any single station for a year was 92·02 inches at Khalilabad in 1894, followed by Haraiya with 84·78 inches; it is remarkable that in that year Bansi

registered but 55 inches, or far less than any other tahsil. Khalilabad, too, holds the minimum record, with 15·1 inches in 1877.

Health. The healthiness or otherwise of the district is amply illustrated by a consideration of the vital statistics. As elsewhere, these are somewhat vitiated by the inaccuracy of the records, especially in early years; but none the less they are of considerable value as representing the general conditions of life. Records of deaths are extant from 1871 onwards, but during the first decade the returns are obviously too low, at any rate up to 1877. The average death-rate obtained from the official figures is 22·27 per mille, and this would have been much lower but for the abnormal mortality of the famine year of 1878, when the rate rose to 42·37. During the ensuing period of ten years, for which the returns are far more reliable, the rate was 28·12 per thousand of the population, the maximum being 37·97 in 1884, when the ravages of small-pox were experienced in an intense form, and the lowest 21·15 in the preceding year. For the last ten years of the century, the average rate was 30·34, varying from 18·77 in 1893, to 40·08 in the following year, when the rainfall was exceptionally heavy, and fever and cholera occurred to an almost unprecedented extent. The annual returns both for deaths and births since 1891 will be found in the appendix.* The figures of the former certainly fail to prove that Basti is an unhealthy district, for the death-rate is appreciably lower than in the other trans-Ghagra tracts and in the Oudh district of Fyzabad to the south of the river. Returns of births are available from 1881. The average rate from that year to 1890 was 43·05 per mille, the excess of births over deaths being remarkably large in every year and betokening a rapid increase of the population during a decade of great prosperity. For the next inter-censal period, the average was 39·32, the decline being due to the unfavourable seasons in 1895, and the two following years, the number of deaths being largely in excess of the births. Since 1898, however, the recovery has been rapid, and in the absence of any unexpected calamity a large increase may be looked for at the next enumeration.

* Appendix, Table III.

Another table shows the prevailing causes of death, and this, too, is to be somewhat liberally interpreted, as the responsibility for the diagnosis rests ultimately on the village watchman. As usual, fever heads the list by a large majority. The term includes not only malarial fever, which is the undoubted cause of most of the deaths ascribed to it, but also influenza, pneumonia, and other common diseases of which fever is but a symptom. From 1874, when the causes of death were first registered, to 1880 the annual mortality from fever averaged 78 per cent. of the total number of deaths, rising to over 83 per cent. in the famine year of 1878. In the next decade the proportion was 69 per cent. and no remarkable epidemics visited the district; and from 1891 to 1900, the average was 71 per cent., the greatest mortality occurring in and after the wet season of 1894, and during the scarcity of 1897. Fever.

The records show that cholera has never been absent from the district for a single year, and the disease may be regarded practically as endemic. Not unfrequently it assumes a violent epidemic form, and carries off large numbers of the people, especially among the poorer classes. The origin of these outbreaks is often ascribed to the dissemination of the disease from the great fairs at Ajodhya in Fyzabad and at Debi Patan in the north of Gonda, probably not without reason; and when it has once got a hold upon the district, it is very difficult to check, owing to the height of the water-level and the consequent difficulty of preserving the wells from contamination, either directly or by percolation. The disease invariably occurs at the commencement of the hot season, and as a rule ceases with the advent of the monsoon. From 1874 to 1880 cholera accounted for 7·5 per cent. of the recorded mortality, outbreaks of some intensity occurred in 1875 and 1880. During the following decade the number of deaths was very large in every year except 1883 and the following, the worst epidemic being that of 1887, when the mortality amounted to over 10,000 persons. The proportion of deaths ascribed to this cause during the period was 7·7 per cent. From 1891 to 1900 the rate was even higher, amounting to nearly 11 per cent. In every year the mortality was considerable, but in 1891, 1892, and 1894 it rose to alarming proportions, more Cholera.

than 39,000 persons falling victims to the disease in the three years. Similar widespread epidemics occurred in 1905 and 1906, the latter being almost the worst on record.

Small-pox.

Of the other diseases little remains to be said, except in the case of small-pox. This occurs every year, but only occasionally does it now cause great loss of life; it is most prevalent during the spring, but is generally present also throughout the winter. The returns show that from 1874 to 1880 small-pox was responsible for nearly six per cent. of the total recorded mortality, while during the ensuing ten years the average was under five per cent., and this would have been much lower but for an extraordinary epidemic in 1884, when over 19,000 were carried off by the disease. No such outbreaks have since been experienced and the number of deaths has never reached a high figure save in 1897, a year of general sickness.* The disappearance of small-pox can only be attributed to the spread of vaccination, which was introduced into the district less than 50 years ago. In former days inoculation was generally practised, but not to a great extent, and Buchanan states that this fact was due to the extreme views held by the Musalman population on the subject of predestination. As early as 1871, the number of persons vaccinated annually had risen to nearly 6,000, and during the ten years ending in 1880, the average number of operations was 11,250. The total rose constantly throughout the following decade, the average being 17,380; but no great progress was effected till 1880, when the total rose at a bound from 17,000 in the previous year to more than 46,000. The progress then achieved has since been maintained fairly steadily. The average number of persons vaccinated between 1891 and 1900 was nearly 46,000 annually, and in every subsequent year this figure has been largely exceeded. Basti is now as well protected in this respect as most districts of the provinces, and there is but little fear of any serious epidemic.

Plague.

Of the other causes of death reference need only be made to plague, which first made its appearance in 1902. The mortality in that year was but small, but the disease reappeared in the following seasons, and in 1905 accounted for more than 4,000

* Appendix, Table IV.

deaths. Even this amount is, however, insignificant as compared with the returns of the neighbouring district of Azamgarh.

Infirmities.

Statistics of infirmities were first collected at the census of 1872. It was then found that the district contained 67 insane persons, 204 deaf-mutes, 793 blind, and 135 lepers. Subsequent enumerations have shown considerable variations in these figures. In 1901, the number of insanes was 144, of the deaf-mutes 753, of blind 1,396, and of lepers 461. The number of deaf-mutes is very large, being only exceeded in Gorakhpur, Almora and Bahraich. This infirmity appears to be closely associated with goitre, a disease which is very prevalent in Basti and the adjoining districts, and is said to be connected in some way with the water of the Ghagra, Rapti, and other rivers which have their origin in the hills. Blindness is not particularly common, as is the case in all the submontane districts, where the moist climate does not conduce to diseases of the eye in the same degree as the dust and heat of the plains to the south. As in the neighbouring districts of Gorakhpur and Fyzabad, leprosy is fairly prevalent, and this fact was noted by Buchanan in 1813. The cause of this affliction is still unknown, but at the present time there are two predominant theories, one being that it is due to a fish diet, and another that it derives its origin from mouldy rice. If either of these be the correct solution of the problem, the prevalence of leprosy in Basti may certainly be adduced in support of the contention.

CHAPTER II.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

The earliest reference to the development of the district is to be found in the accounts of the Chinese pilgrims, from which we learn that in the fifth and seventh centuries of the Christian era Basti and Gorakhpur had relapsed from their pristine state of civilization into one great forest. The next source of information is the *Ain-i-Akbari,* compiled towards the end of the sixteenth century. It is very difficult to obtain from this, however, any accurate idea of the condition of things then prevailing; but it is certain that the cultivated area was very small, and that the southern parganas alone could boast of any extensive cultivation. Subsequently the district continued to improve under the local Rajas, who were to a large extent independent, but progress was checked by intestine warfare, and also by the incursions of predatory tribes in the north. The growing power of the Oudh Government also had a retarding effect, owing to the extortion of the officials; and at the cession the condition of the country was miserable in the extreme. In 1813, when Dr. Buchanan visited Basti, the south had to some extent recovered; but the north was very sparsely cultivated, and the area of jungle and grove land was disproportionately great. In the north-eastern portion of the district all progress was stopped by the Nepalese war, and it was a long time before the forests were cleared and the waste reclaimed. It is in this quarter that most of the large jungle grants are situated, and these have only been brought under cultivation within the last 60 or 70 years. A professional survey of the district was completed in 1838, at the time of the fifth or first regular settlement, and it was then ascertained that the cultivated area was 896,703 acres, or 53·5 per cent. of the whole. Every part of the district had improved, while the south was for the most part in a high state of cultivation. During this settlement the rate of development was well maintained, and in 1859 the area under the plough had risen to

Cultivated area.

1,047,449 acres or 62 per cent. Accurate annual returns were not compiled till 1884, and by that year the cultivated area had increased to the extent of 100,000 acres. During the ensuing ten years a steady increase was observed, the average being 1,204,400 acres, and the maximum somewhat over 1,250,000 acres in 1893. A marked decline then ensued, owing to a series of bad seasons, which culminated in 1897, the average area cultivated in the five years ending in 1899 being 1,215,340 acres. The district, however, made a rapid recovery, and in the following five years the area under the plough exceeded all previous records, averaging 1,271,427 acres. The returns for 1905, are shown in the appendix.* The total cultivation was 1,285,712 acres or no less than 71·9 per cent. of the entire area, a proportion which is only exceeded in a few districts in the United Provinces. The ratio of the cultivated to the total area varies in different parganas, but not to any marked extent. It is highest in the remote tract of Binayakpur, where it amounts to as much as 81·4 per cent., while next comes Bansi East with 75 per cent. and Rasulpur and Basti East with over 74 per cent. The other parganas are somewhat below the general average, Amorha coming last with 67 per cent., although this is perhaps the richest part of the whole district.

Culturable waste.

It is consequently obvious that but little land still remains available for cultivation. As already mentioned in the preceding chapter, ten per cent. of the area is barren waste and 2·8 per cent. is taken up by groves. This leaves but 15·3 per cent. under the head of culturable waste, and from this a further deduction of 2·3 per cent. must be made on account of new fallow, or land which is deliberately left untilled under the usual system of rotation. Of the remainder, some 69,000 acres are classed as culturable waste proper, and 163,000 acres as old fallow. This area consists mostly of uneven ground on the banks of rivers and streams, or of land which is either too swampy for ordinary cultivation or is rendered barren on account of saline efflorescences. But the greater part of the area recorded as old fallow is not really fallow at all, but waste land which has never been cultivated, and distinguished from the other classes only by the circumstance that it is

*Appendix, Table V.

not overgrown by long grass or jungle. The waste area is approximately equal in all the tahsils of the district, though perhaps Haraiya shows the largest proportion. It was estimated at the last settlement that the area of good land still available for cultivation was not extensive, though subsequent events have proved that a considerable amount of fresh ground has been brought under cultivation owing to the stimulus of an enhanced assessment. It is possible that in the northern parganas of Rasulpur and Bansi there is still room for some extension of the area under the plough, but generally speaking, it is only the most inferior land which has been left untouched, and it is certain that a large proportion of the so-called culturable waste could never repay tillage.

Cultivation. The system of cultivation envolved in Basti does not differ from that followed in the neighbouring districts and presents no special features. The farming is on the whole good, and the standard of husbandry is enhanced by the fact that, as in Gonda, the population is distributed over a large number of hamlets, usually within easy reach of their fields; and the general character of their lands enables the cultivators to maintain a constant succession of harvests during the year, with the exception of the hot weather and the beginning of the rains. The small amount of current fallow has given rise to fears on the score of over-cropping; but the soil does not seem to have suffered materially from this cause, although the supply of manure for those staples that require or would benefit from it is probably scarcely sufficient. Manure heaps are to be seen in every village, but the amount available is small, as, in accordance with the usual custom, the bulk is utilized for fuel. Practically manure is confined to the more valuable crops, such as wheat, sugarcane, poppy and vegetables. The usual system of rotation is observed, cereals alternating with leguminous crops, while the more exhaustive plants, such as sugarcane and poppy, are never sown twice in succession on the same land. Fields bear different names according to the crops and harvests for which they are successively tilled. In the case of the *rabi* they are known either as *palihar*, *takrar*, or *okhaon*. The *palihar* lands are those which, ordinarily reserved for rice or some other *kharif* crop, are left fallow for one autumn harvest and

are carefully prepared for spring wheat, the latter being sometimes followed by sugarcane. Those known as *takrar* are rice lands, which immediately after harvest are prepared for a second crop, generally gram, *masur*, or barley; and *okhaon* is the name given to fields which are ploughed in August and sown with the more valuable *rabi* crops such as poppy, tobacco or vegetables. Similarly in the *kharif*, the fields are known as *mair*, *janewa*, or *maghar*. The first are those which, after lying fallow, are broken up in August and again prepared in the spring, being eventually sown with rice during the rains. The term *janewa* is given to fields which have already borne a spring crop and are sown again in the same year; and *maghar* to those from which a crop of rice has been taken in the preceding year and are again prepared for a similar harvest in the ensuing July. Generally speaking, the people make the most of the resources at their disposal, and save in regard to a few prejudices and superstitions they have probably not much to learn from others in the practice of their art.

Implements. The cultivator's stock-in-trade also is much the same as in other districts. In addition to the plough, which has a lighter and longer share or *phar* than that found in the Doab, the ordinary implements comprise the heavy beam or board which serves the purpose of a harrow and is here known as the *henga*; the *pharaha* or mattock, the *khurpi* or spud, the *hasua* or sickle, and the *pancha* or rake for collecting the grain on the threshing-floor. To these may be added a few others, such as baskets of different description, the *paina* or ox-goad, and the *garasi* or chopper for cutting up straw for fodder.

Harvests. Taking the physical conditions of the district into consideration, it is only natural to find that the *kharif* harvest largely exceeds the *rabi* in extent. At the last settlement in 1889, the total area occupied by the autumn crops, which include *jarhan* rice, sugarcane and *arhar*, although they are not reaped till later, was 834,081 acres or 68 per cent. of the total cultivation. At the same time the *rabi* harvest covered 749,910 acres or 61 per cent. Subsequent years have shown a considerable expansion, especially on the part of the *kharif*, which in the eight years ending in 1905, averaged 952,500 acres, as compared with 782,000 acres

in the *rabi*. This predominance on the part of the *kharif* occurs in every tahsil except Khalilabad, in which the *rabi* covers a slightly larger area. The disproportion is most marked in Domariaganj, where it amounts to some 95,000 acres. Next comes Bansi, in which the *kharif* exceeds the spring harvest by about 70,000 acres; while in Haraiya and Basti the difference is comparatively small. The *zaid* or extra harvest is usually unimportant, and seldom covers more than 5,000 acres, the greater proportion of which is found in the Khalilabad tahsil.

Double-cropping. Concomitantly with the increase in the cultivated area there has been a fairly rapid development of the practice of double-cropping. In 1884, the area bearing two crops in the year was 307,500 acres or 26·9 per cent. of the total cultivation. This had risen to 29 per cent. at the time of the settlement in 1889, while subsequent years have shown a still further increase. During the past eight years it has averaged 35·4 per cent. the maximum being 5,08,900 acres in 1904, or no less than 39·57 per cent. The chief factor in this increase has been the spread of rice cultivation, which has gained ground in all parts of the district, the effect on the double-cropped area resulting from the practice of sowing gram and other similar staples on land which has already borne a harvest of early rice. The proportion of land bearing two crops in the year is greatest in the Bansi tahsil, where it amounts to over 40 per cent. of the cultivation, and lowest in Domariaganj, in which it is under 32 per cent.

Crops. The table given in the appendix shows the distribution of the principal crops in each tahsil and the areas occupied by them in each successive year since 1898.* The climate and soil of Basti are suitable for the growth of nearly all the more valuable products, and cotton is the only important staple which is not cultivated, the reason being that the climate is damp. Indigo, too, was formerly grown and manufactured to a considerable extent on the estates of the European grantees; but its production was abandoned several years ago as it ceased to be a profitable undertaking. With these exceptions, however, we find in Basti almost all the crops which are grown in the other parts of the United Provinces, although several of them occupy but an insignificant position.

* Appendix, Table VI.

Rice.

In the *kharif* harvest by far the most valuable and extensively cultivated staple is rice. This covers more than half the entire cultivated area of the district, and on an average amounts to 70·5 per cent. of the *kharif* harvest. The proportion is naturally greatest in the north, amounting to 81·29 and 79·89 per cent. in the Domariaganj and Bansi tahsils respectively; in tahsil Basti it approximates to the general figure, while in Khalilabad and Haraiya it is below the average, covering but 51·96 per cent. of the *kharif* area in the latter. The spread of rice cultivation during the past 30 years is very noticeable, as in 1877 it occupied only 583,200 acres, as compared with nearly 697,000 acres in 1905. As rice forms the main food of the people and constitutes the principal article of export, its cultivation may be noticed in some detail. Innumerable varieties of rice are grown in the district, the difference in many cases being so slight that only the practised eye of the cultivator himself can detect it; but as elsewhere, it may be divided into three broad classes: the coarse early rice known as *usahan*, from being sown broad-cast, or *bhadain*, from being reaped in the month of Bhadon; the late transplanted variety, generically called *jarhan* or *aghani*, from the fact that it is harvested in Aghan; and lastly the comparatively scarce summer rice known as *boro*. The early rice is the most profitable of the ordinary rain crops, and is sown in the best lands of the village, being usually followed by peas or some similar staple in the *rabi*. Such fields pay a very high rent; but at the same time much of the *usahan* is sown in outlying lands, in which no *rabi* can be grown, owing to the hardness of the soil or the want of irrigation and manure. The late rice or *jarhan* is far more valuable. It is grown on land which seldom bears a second crop, but the yield is so large that it compensates for the loss of the spring harvest. The crop thrives best in a clay soil, but the most important factor in the selection of the fields is the position of the land as regards drainage; for the plant requires a constant supply of water till at least the end of October. In the south of the district, the best *jarhan* grows in *sois* or shallow depressions, sufficiently deep to retain the water, but not deep enough to allow the rice to be swamped; while in the north it lies in great tracts, locally called *dāb* or *dābar*. Consequently

the area under *jarhan* is far greater in the country beyond the Rapti than in the parganas to the south, where early rice largely predominates. This fact forms the most important element in determining rents; for in the south the double-cropped land is the mainstay of the village, and the richest and most careful cultivation is in the *goind* fields, while in the north little attention is paid to anything but the *jarhan*, and the higher lands are usually neglected, save for the comparatively small area in which the rice is sown before transplantation. As is the case with *usahan*, there are innumerable varieties of *jarhan*, one of the best of these being the *barma*, which was introduced from Burma by Mr. Peppe of Birdpur. The northern tappas of the Bansi tahsil supply some of the best descriptions of what is known commercially as Patna rice. Another kind of winter rice is that called *karangi*, which only differs from *jarhan* in being sown broadcast instead of transplanted. The *boro*, or summer rice, belongs more properly to the account of the *zaid* harvest. The cost of cultivation and the average outturn of the different kinds of rice, as is the case with all other crops, are speculative questions, and little reliance can be placed on the official returns. At the last settlement Mr. Hooper came to the conclusion that 12 maunds per acre was a fair and moderate estimate of the average yield in a good *jarhan* village, but it is certain that on many occasions far better results have been obtained. Mr. Peppe considered that the average profit per acre was Rs. 3, but so much depends on the season, as well as on the position of the field, that such estimates are practically useless.

Sugarcane.

The only other *kharif* staple of any great value is sugarcane, which covers on an average 5·11 per cent. of the area sown in this harvest. The proportion varies greatly in different parts of the district, for in the two northern tahsils, and especially Bansi, the amount of sugarcane cultivation is very small, while in Haraiya and Basti this staple accounts for 8·74 and 9·17 per cent. of the harvest respectively. Generally speaking, however, cane is to be found in all parts of the district except the Tarai tract in the north. According to Mr. Hooper, there are four principal varieties, known as *barokha*, *katara*, *mango* and *saroti*. The first, which is the flowering kind, is only found in the

alluvial tract of the Ghagra, and especially in the *manjha* lands, where it grows without irrigation; while the others are not restricted to any particular locality. The crop requires a large amount of manure, and cannot be grown in the same land for two years running, while sometimes the field is prepared for a whole year before the cane shoots are planted. Sugarcane is apt to be damaged by excessive rain, and in certain soils it is liable to injury from white ants. No refined sugar is now manufactured in the district: the juice is simply boiled, and made up into *bhelis* or balls of coarse unrefined sugar, known as *gur*. The estimated outturn ranges from 16 to 20 maunds per acre, and the cost of cultivation from Rs. 19 to Rs. 21.

Other *kharif* crops.

The remaining crops call for very little notice. A certain amount of maize is grown, averaging 5·47 per cent. of the harvest, and is increasing in popularity, especially in the alluvial tract of the Ghagra and near the Rapti in the Bansi tahsil. More important is *arhar*, which in this district is usually sown alone and covers on an average 11·33 per cent. of the *kharif* area, the proportion exceeding 15·5 per cent. in Khalilabad. The larger millets, *juar* and *bajra*, are not grown to any appreciable extent; the latter is almost unknown, and only a very little *juar* is harvested, although a fair amount is sown in the Basti and Haraiya tahsils and cut while green for fodder. The small and coarse millet known as *kodon* is found in every part of the district, and especially in the Bansi tahsil, being sown on the inferior light soils and receiving no manure or irrigation. The pulses known as *urd* and *mung* are found in all parts, but the area is nowhere important, and the somewhat similar crop called *moth* is to be seen on the poorest lands. The remainder of the harvest comprises a little *mandua*, *til*, hemp, and a small area of garden crops.

Wheat.

Of the spring or *rabi* staples the most important is wheat, though it does not cover the largest area. When sown by itself, it occupies on an average some 164,000 acres or 21 per cent. of the entire harvest. In the Bansi tahsil there is but little pure wheat, the average being 13·78 per cent.; but elsewhere the proportion is much higher, reaching 27·32 per cent. in Haraiya, where wheat surpasses all other crops in extent. It thrives best in the lighter

loam soils, its place being taken by barley in the inferior lands, and consequently the greatest areas of wheat are to be found in the central *uparhar* tract and the *tarhar* of the Ghagra. The crop is the most expensive of the *rabi* products, as the land requires very careful preparation and irrigation is almost invariably needed : the estimated cost is from Rs. 15 to Rs. 17 per acre, and the outturn from 12 to 18 maunds.

Barley.

A large amount of wheat is also sown in combination with barley, and this mixture, known as *gujai*, covers about 128,000 acres, being most common in the Bansi and Khalilabad tahsil. It is a favourite crop with Brahman cultivators, and though less profitable than pure wheat, yields a good return with less labour. Barley is sown alone to some extent, notably in the Bansi tahsil, but it is more usually mixed with gram, the total average area of barley in combination being 281,750 acres or 36 per cent. of the whole *rabi* harvest. In Bansi it amounts altogether to more than 50 per cent., but in Haraiya, on the other hand, the proportion is no more than 26·8 per cent.

Gram and peas.

Gram is also sown alone, but not to any great extent. On an average it covers some 31,500 acres, or four per cent. of the *rabi* harvest, though of late years this figure has been largely exceeded. The place elsewhere occupied by gram is taken in this district by peas, which cover on an average nearly 170,000 acres, or 21·7 per cent. of the total area ; while in 1905, the figure rose to over 200,000 acres. The proportion is highest in the Basti tahsil, but is above the average in all the southern parganas, though even in Bansi peas cover a larger area than wheat. They are very generally sown in succession to early rice, and as the crop requires not only irrigation but manure, it is commonly found in the *goind* lands of the village, while gram, *masur* and the like are sown in the outlying fields. The selection of the spring crop, however, depends on the soil, the irrigation, the population of the village, and even the caste of the cultivators. If a village is thickly populated, an early and productive food crop is the first necessity, and in such a case peas are generally grown, unless the cultivators are Brahmans, this caste preferring barley mixed with wheat. If the population is small and the holdings are large, so that the tenants can afford to grow crops

for sale, they sow linseed or *lahi*, which in good land are very profitable. The estimated outturn of peas varies from 12 to 16 maunds per acre, or two maunds more than that yielded by gram.

Linseed. Linseed is a somewhat favourite crop in the northern tahsils, especially Bansi, but it is also found throughout the district covering on an average 45,400 acres or 5·8 per cent. of the *rabi*. Of late years, too, the area has greatly increased, owing no doubt to the high prices prevailing, and in 1904, over 80,000 acres were sown with linseed. The crop is usually unirrigated, and is frequently grown on the outlying and inferior fields.

Poppy. Mention should also be made of poppy, which occupies on an average nearly 20,000 acres or 2·5 per cent. of the *rabi* area. This profitable crop is most extensively produced in the Haraiya tahsils, where it amounts to 6·54 per cent., and in this portion of the district the receipts from opium go a long way towards the payment of both rent and revenue. There is also a fair amount in the Rasulpur pargana of tahsil Domariaganj, and in the Basti tahsil. At the same time there appears to have been some decline in poppy cultivation during the past 50 years, for in 1864 the area was 58,800 acres, and the average from 1860 to 1890 was no less than 31,500 acres, the annual payments for the same period being nearly ten lakhs.

Other *rabi* crops. Among the remaining *rabi* crops are included *masur*, which is grown in all parts of the district and occupies some 15,000 acres; mustard and rape or *lahi*, with about 7,000 acres, almost wholly in the northern tahsil; potatoes and other vegetables and garden crops. The area under the last is small, the gardening castes usually devoting themselves to poppy, which they find more profitable; as a rule garden cultivation is carried on in the neighbourhood of large towns and villages, but in Basti there are no towns of any size and very few villages of importance.

Zaid crops. The *zaid* crops, grown in the hot weather, are generally insignificant. Melons are raised to some extent in the sandy soil adjoining the larger rivers, but the area thus cultivated is very small. The only staple deserving mention is the *boro* or

summer rice, to which reference has already been made. This is mainly found in the parganas of Maghar East and Bansi East, and is sown in seed beds in moist places, and transplanted along the edges of lakes or ponds. Its cultivation is chiefly carried on by the sides of the Bakhira and Chaur Tals. In the former small spaces are enclosed with a bank of earth and the water baled out, a sufficient supply being allowed to enter when required. In the Chaur Tal irrigation is obtained from the Parasi, the waters of which are held up by a series of dams for several miles. The crop is said to be even more productive than *jarhan*, and land suitable for its production fetches a high rent. There is another kind of rice grown in the lakes, known as *dausi*; but this is not of much importance, and is chiefly confined to the Sikandarpur Tal, where it is sown broadcast in the mud. The lakes also produce the wild rice or *tinni*, which springs up along the edges of the shallow water and is commonly used as an article of food. Another product of some importance is the *singhara* or water-nut, which is extensively planted by Kahars and others.

Irrigation.

The district is on the whole admirably supplied with means of irrigation. Accurate statistics of the area actually watered in each year date only from 1884. The returns of the 1860 settlement are useless, as they show merely the land which was considered irrigable, owing to its position near a well, tank, or river; and for the same reason the statements recorded by the Famine Commission of 1888 are equally valueless. The available figures show that from 1885 to 1894, the annual amount of land artificially watered was, on an average, 505,588 acres or 41·4 per cent. of the net cultivation. This is a very high proportion, especially as the decade embraced a period of generally ample rainfall. From 1895 to 1904 the average was even higher, the annual amount of irrigation being 552,385 acres or 44·3 per cent. of the area under the plough. The figures for 1904-05 are shown in the appendix, but in that year, owing to the heavy winter rains, the amount was the lowest recorded since 1886.* The preceding year, 1903-04, on the other hand, exhibited the maximum irrigated area, 620,000 acres or 48 per cent., of the cultivation. The proportion is very high, and is exceeded in few

* Appendix, Table V.

districts; and on the whole it may be said that in ordinary years irrigation is available for every field that requires water. As a rule, the *jarhan* rice needs no irrigation, nor does *arhar*, nor do the crops shown on the Rapti *bhat* area and the Ghagra *manjha;* so that if these be excluded, the supply is ample for the rest. In most places indeed there is more danger from an excess of water than from any deficiency, and perhaps the only tract in which the means of irrigation are scarcely adequate is the narrow strip of sandy soil which marks the southern edge of the *uparhar* in the two parganas of Mahuli and Nagar. These facts are further illustrated by an examination of the returns for the different parganas and tahsils. Even in 1905, when irrigation was at a discount, there was no upland pargana in which less than 46 per cent. of the cultivated area was artificially watered, with the possible exception of Mahuli East, where the proportion was 40 per cent.; and here it must be remembered that much of the area lies low and possesses a sufficient natural moisture. In such a wet year very little irrigation is required in the two northern tahsils, especially Bansi, and at all times the *bhat* tract and the Tarai, both in the two parganas of Bansi and in Binayakpur, may be said to require nothing beyond the natural supply.

Sources of supply.

Turning to the sources from which irrigation is derived, we find from the returns of the past ten years that some 209,500 acres or nearly 38 per cent. of the irrigated area is watered from wells; 232,400 acres or 42 per cent. from tanks, *jhils,* and lakes; and the remaining 100,600 acres or nearly 20 per cent. from other sources, such as the streams and the private canals in the north of the Bansi tahsil. These relative proportions are not always maintained. In 1896-97, when the rainfall was very scanty, the tank-irrigated area fell to below 129,000 acres, while that supplied from wells rose to over 281,000 acres—a fact which is of some significance as illustrating the capacity of the district when put to the test. The same phenomenon occurred, but to a less degree, in 1902-03, when the well-irrigated area rose far above the average. As a rule, however, tanks are preferred to wells as affording a cheaper and less laborious means of irrigation, though they are no more free in Basti than elsewhere from the disadvantage of drying up when they are most required.

Wells.

In every part of the district the water is near the surface, and a series of observations taken at the last settlement show that the average depth to the water in the wells is 12 feet one inch. In the Bansi tahsil it is not more than nine feet nine inches, and in Domariaganj, which includes a small portion of the upland tract, ten feet three inches. Further south, in tahsil Basti, it increases to 13 feet four inches, while in Khalilabad it is 12 feet two inches, and in Haraiya 12 feet four inches. The construction of wells therefore is a matter of no great difficulty. In every part of the district, except perhaps the sandy edge of the *uparhar*, unprotected earthen wells can be made very rapidly, at a cost ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5, and last for about eight months. They are only dug when the rainfall is insufficient, but they form a most valuable means for maintaining the area of the spring harvest in a dry year. Thus in the famine of 1896-97 very large numbers of these wells were constructed and the *rabi* sown was equivalent to 78 per cent. of the normal. But as a rule a comparatively small number of these wells are employed, the total being only 2,665 in 1905, when the demand for irrigation was below the average. Masonry wells, which are in every way preferable, being more capacious and very durable, are far more common. At the last settlement they numbered 18,953, while in 1905, the total had risen to 24,346. The construction of such wells received a great impetus during the famine, when nearly 1,600 were made as the result of advances given by the Government. They generally consist of a brick cylinder laid in mud, mortar being seldom employed, and cost from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60. The largest number is to be found in the Haraiya tahsil, where over 9,000 are at work; while next comes Basti with 7,000 and then Khalilabad with 4,660. In the northern tahsils they are less numerous, the total for Domariaganj and Bansi being under 3,700. Here the heavy rainfall is sufficiently conserved in tanks, depressions, streams and ponds, so that well irrigation is generally unnecessary. In this district owing to the height of the water level, the use of bullocks is not required, and ordinarily the wells are worked by the lever or *dhenkul*, the pole being attached to a forked wooden post, known as the *khamba*, or else supported on a mud wall, called *bhita*, when there are more levers

than one. In some places the *charkhi* or pot-and-pulley system is also to be seen.

Tanks.

As already mentioned in the previous chapter, tanks abound in every part of the district. The term includes the large and small lakes, the shallow depressions in which the surface water collects, regularly constructed reservoirs, and the deep excavations round village sites. Some of the lakes, such as the Aila Tal in Sheopur, the Leond Tal in Awainia, and the chain of *jhils* in Bhanpur, form central reservoirs, from which the water flows by artificial channels to considerable distances, and fills up the village ponds and tanks, so as to irrigate the *jarhan* when necessary. Regularly constructed tanks are often to be seen, even in the rice country, where they serve a very useful purpose. As usual, water is raised from tanks by means of swing-baskets, called *beri,* or sometimes, when the height to which it has to be lifted is small, by the *don,* a wooden trough which is worked by the lever on the same principle as the *dhenkal.* From the channels into which it is lifted the water is scooped up and thrown over the land by means of a spoon-shaped shovel called the *hatha.*

Other sources.

The term other sources comprises the irrigation derived from the rivers and streams whether directly or by means of canals. The natural watercourses are employed in all the parganas of the district, but the largest areas so watered are to be found in Bansi East, Rasulpur, Basti East, and the two Maghars. When water is raised from the streams directly, the *beri* is usually employed, or even the *don;* but when the streams are dammed up, the water is made to flow along channels cut through the higher ground on either bank. Such channels, into which the water flows naturally by the force of gravitation, are called *kula,* in distinction to the ordinary *barha* or ditch, into which the water is poured by the lift. In the northern tappas of Dhebarua and Khajahni there is a regular system of *jarhan* irrigation from the small hill streams by means of these dams and *kulas,* the practice being rendered necessary on account of the difficulty that would otherwise be experienced in regulating the flow of these mountain torrents.

The Birdpur canals.

The *kula* system has been developed into a regular series of canals on the estates of Messrs. Peppe and Bridgman in the north of the Bansi tahsil. About the year 1850 Mr. Peppe first thought of storing water for his estate by damming the Marti river on the Nepal frontier, but it was not until 1864 that a failure of the rains led to the execution of active measures. Work was first started on the Siswa, a small stream about ten feet deep and 20 feet wide, which, after entering the grant from Nepal, runs through two pieces of high land. At this point a rough embankment was made, and the water thus held up was led by means of hastily dug channels to the rice fields. This was the beginning, from which originated the present system, whereby a large property which 70 years ago was covered with forest and jungle, has secured complete protection from drought and famine. The water necessary for irrigation is derived from the Marti, Siswa, and Jamuwar rivers. The two last are merely fed by surface drainage, and take their rise a few miles beyond the Nepal boundary; but the Marti is a more pretentious stream, and derives an additional supply from a spill of the Banganga river. By means of three earthen embankments the level of the water has been sufficiently raised to enable it to flow by a network of canals through the Birdpur, Neora, and Alidapur estates. At one time the Tilar also was dammed for irrigating the Dulha grant, but a heavy flood carried away the weir, and no attempt was made to rebuild it. The reservoirs are supplied with massive masonry escape weirs and gates, by which the surplus water is allowed to pass away during the rains, and the banks have been saved from bursting even in the heaviest floods. For many years it was found that much of the Marti water was wasted, and at the same time some deficiency was experienced in the case of the other streams, owing to dams made higher up by the Nepalese. Eventually a canal was dug from the Marti reservoir leading to that of the Siswa, and finally a third reservoir, called the Majauli, was built behind the Siswa embankment but at a lower level, and connected with the Marti by a channel 12 feet wide. The Marti reservoir is provided with three weirs, one of which possesses seven gates, five feet six inches by five feet in size; one with five gates, five feet six inches by four feet; and the third with six

gates, five feet by two feet six inches. The side and front walls are built on wells sunk to an average depth of ten feet below the river bed. The level of the water has been raised 16 feet, and it is discharged into two canals of 12 feet in breadth and one of eight feet. The Siswa reservoir was constructed by throwing an embankment a mile long and eight feet high across the valley of the stream and placing in it two weirs, one with seven gates, six feet by five feet, and the other with five gates, six feet by four feet. The water has thus been raised 12 feet and is discharged into three canals of eight feet each. The third or Majauli reservoir has been formed by a similar embankment, and is provided with a weir of ten gates, five feet six inches square, and two surface escapes. The water level has been raised 20 feet, and the reservoirs supply three canals, one of eight feet and two of four feet in breadth. On the Alidapur estate there is a still larger reservoir, formed by an embankment over the Jamuwar, constructed by the late Mr. Bridgman; it possesses one weir of 20 gates, five feet by three feet six inches, and supplies three canals each eight feet broad. A fifth and similar reservoir is to be found in the Neora estate. In each case the main canals are run down along the high lands to the southern boundaries of the estate, and from these again distributaries branch off in every direction, so that practically every field is directly connected with the canal. With the exception of a few villages in the immediate neighbourhood of the reservoir, the whole of these grants are under flush irrigation; and the total length of the canals is about 185 miles. No direct charge is made for the water, and though it is supposed to be amalgamated with the rents, the rate per acre does not exceed that of similar, but unprotected, lands in the neighbourhood. The amount of water used varies with the needs of the season. Thus in 1904-05 only 54 acres required irrigation, but in other years no less than 30,000 acres have been watered by these means. The value of the canals is shown by the fact that there has never been a failure of the crops since their inception, and even in 1897 a good outturn was secured.

Other canals.

The example set by the European proprietors has been followed in the neighbouring tappa of Banjaraha by Babu Shohrat Singh. His irrigation works are on a smaller scale, but are

suited to the circumstances of the estate. They consist of two dams with masonry weirs, on the Mahsai, supplying two canals with a total length of 16 miles; and two earthen dams, from which 19 miles of channel are supplied, in the villages of Semra and Nibi, on the Jamgadua or Doi, a tributary of the Jamuwar.

The district of Basti has on several occasions been visited by drought, but the results have never been very serious, and may more properly be described as scarcities rather than famines. Little is known of the early calamities of this nature. Tradition relates that a great drought occurred during the reign of Aurangzeb, probably in 1661, and that no rain fell for two years, with the result that the Rapti ran almost dry. Another famine occurred about 50 years later, but no authentic details regarding it are known; and Buchanan mentions that the famine of 1769 caused great distress in Basti and Gorakhpur. The district appears to have escaped the ravages of the great *chalisa* famine of 1783, and was unaffected by the scarcity of 1803, when large exportations were made to the less fortunate districts of Oudh. Again in 1814, and in 1837 Gorakhpur and Basti were untouched, though some pressure was occasioned by the great rise in prices. **Early famines.**

In 1868-69, Basti was little less fortunate. The rains broke in the middle of July, but after a few days a dry interval succeeded and lasted till the middle of September. This caused considerable damage to the rice crop, half of which was lost in the parganas south of the Rapti, while in the north irrigation was rendered necessary. Some brief storms occurred in September, but the rain again ceased, and eventually the rice, both *usahan* and *jarhan*, failed to the extent of one-half. Numerous earthen wells were made in all parts of the district, and their assistance, aided by good rain in January 1869, resulted in a *rabi* harvest which was estimated to be 75 per cent. of the normal and to cover nearly 90 per cent. of the average area. No relief works were necessary on this occasion, nor were any suspensions or remissions of the revenue granted; those that suffered most were the labouring classes, on whom the high prices told somewhat severely. **Scarcity of 1869.**

In 1873-74, Basti and Gorakhpur were to some extent affected by the great Bengal famine. A deficient rainfall caused **Scarcity of 1874.**

a failure of the rice crop and a marked contraction of the *rabi* area, while a severe frost in January did much damage to the *arhar* and other pulses. Consequently relief works were started in the spring, the average number of persons who attended throughout March being 2,200; the figure rose rapidly during April, when it averaged 28,000, the maximum being 84,000 at the end of the month. It was then discovered that many were attracted by the light work and ample remuneration, and a reduction of the wages together with an increased task sent large numbers back to the fields. The poor *rabi* outturn, however, tended only to enhance prices, and in the last week of May 127,000 persons were relieved daily on the works. This state of things came soon to an end, for early in June the rains set in, and by the end of the month all the works were closed, although the poorhouses at Bansi and Basti were maintained till the end of October. Altogether Rs. 4,28,560 were expended by Government on relief works, and Rs. 9,640 on the poorhouses and other institutions for infirm paupers.

Famine of 1878.

The dearth of 1877-78 was of a more serious nature and affected the people of Basti to a greater degree than any of the preceding calamities. In 1877, the monsoon was very deficient, and from the beginning of June till the end of September no more than 11·3 inches fell, with the result that the rice crop in the north was an almost entire failure and the other *kharif* staples yielded but one-fourth of the normal outturn. Prices immediately rose to an unprecedented height, and by the end of the year the condition of the poorer classes was considered critical. A poorhouse was opened at Basti towards the end of October, while in January 1878 similar institutions were started at Bansi and Mehndawal. In spite of the increasing distress, no relief works were undertaken till the 19th of February, when a small number of persons were given employment on the Basti and Mehndawal road. The *rabi* harvest was fair, as regards wheat and barley, though the outturn of the inferior grain was much below the average; the cessation of harvesting operations only served to increase the general distress, and by May the situation had become acute, large numbers of people migrating from the district to Gonda and Nepal. At the end of May and the beginning of

June, two relief works were opened on the roads from Bansi to Rudhauli and Kakrahi-ghat, and the number of persons in receipt of relief rose to 64,000 at the end of June. In the beginning of the next month a third work was opened on the Belwa dam, but the attendance was small, and eventually operations were suspended by a flood on the Ghagra. The numbers on the other works gradually declined during July and September; on the 26th of the latter month, employment on the Kakrahi-ghat road was closed, while by the end of October the famine ceased. The total cost of relief operations was Rs. 1,50,359, to which must be added private subscriptions to the amount of Rs. 2,788 for the maintenance of the poorhouses, and liberal grants made by the Raja of Bansi, through whose agency a large number of persons were supported.

Scarcity of 1896-97.

From 1878 to 1896, the district escaped calamities of this sort, but in 1896-97 a partial failure of the crops, followed by high prices, caused considerable distress, which in January 1897 almost amounted to famine. The serious deficiency in the rainfall of 1896 followed on a cycle of rather poor years; in 1894 the *kharif* crops had suffered from flooding and the ensuing *rabi* was disappointing; while in the autumn of 1895 the rains ceased prematurely, so that the late rice suffered and the *rabi* area was contracted. The rains in 1896 began in good time, but a break set in about the middle of July and lasted for a month. Good rain fell during the third week in August, but then the monsoon came abruptly to an end, and little more was received till a few good showers in the last week of November rendered much benefit to the spring crops in parts of the district. The outturn of the early rice, on which the people mainly depend for their food, was only three-fifths of the normal, and that of the *jarhan* no more than one-fourth, the total produce of the *kharif* being estimated at 6½ annas in the rupee. The following *rabi* was better, inasmuch as three-fourths of the normal harvest was secured, and the high prices prevailing rendered the monetary return far greater than that obtained from a full crop in ordinary seasons. Basti was thus more fortunate than the neighbouring districts, and the only portions in which the distress was in any way acute comprised one-third of Domariaganj and about three-fourths of

Khalilabad. In the former the rice lands to the north and north-west suffered from an insufficient rainfall, and in the latter the same cause was at work, and though the *rabi* was less unsatisfactory, the advantage on this account was counterbalanced by the greater pressure of population.

Relief operations.

The height to which prices rose was due, in the first place, to the insufficient supply of rice, which from November 1896 to the following July, was never cheaper than 9 *sers* to the rupee or nearly double the normal price; and latterly to the extensive exportation of the *rabi* food crops, so that by June hardly any class of grain could be obtained at a cheaper rate than 11 *sers*. The labouring classes and mendicants felt the pinch of scarcity at a very early date, and the influx of beggars into the town made it necessary to open a poorhouse at Basti on the 15th of August 1896. During the same month test works were opened on the roads, but just at this time rain fell in sufficient quantities to enable the winter rice to be transplanted, and thus caused a considerable demand for labour; so that very few persons were attracted to the works, which were closed after a few days. Distress again made itself felt in September and October, but private charity sufficed for the requirements of the moment, and the agriculturists were not yet at the end of their resources. Their chief need was seed for the *rabi* harvest, and at first it seemed that the supply would be insufficient. Meetings were held to impress the *zamindars* with the necessity of assisting their tenants, and the sum of Rs. 72,000 advanced by Government for the purchase of seed and the construction of wells was worth far more than the actual amount by reason of the stimulus which it gave to the landlords and also to the village Banias. Eventually 78 per cent. of the normal *rabi* area was sown, and during October and November the labourers found ample employment in the fields. The demand fell off, however, towards the end of the latter month, with the result that distress became more apparent, while private charity was no longer sufficient to relieve the immediate pressure. Poorhouses were opened at Basti, Haraiya, Khalilabad, and Domariaganj, while revenue was suspended to the amount of Rs. 80,971, of which Rs. 25,501 were afterwards remitted, and at the same time several small test works were started. These did not attract many labourers,

except at Khalilabad, and in January it was found advisable to start a larger work at that place under the management of the Public Works department, employment being provided on the road to Chhapra-ghat. Advances were also given to a number of *zamindars* to enable them to start small works on their own estates, on condition of repaying two-thirds of the sum received. In this manner Rs. 21,000 were expended, and a similar amount, half of which was met by subscriptions, was distributed gratuitously to those who on account of infirmity, caste, or sentiment could not attend the poorhouses or join the relief works. Another large work was opened for the Domariaganj tahsil on the road from Bitharia to Chandradip-ghat.

Closing operations.

All these forms of relief were maintained till the *rabi* harvest in April, when the distress subsided; but the pressure again increased in May, necessitating further large advances of seed grain for the *kharif*, supplemented by free gifts from the Charitable Fund. In this manner a full *kharif* area was sown, but the large works were maintained till the advent of the monsoon, though even then assistance was required in the Khalilabad tahsil and the Basti poorhouse had to be kept open. The last work was closed in September, and up to that time about a million persons, counted by daily units, had obtained employment, at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 250,000. These figures did not, however, take into account the many private works, and necessarily exclude the large sums bestowed in charity. Fortunately in this famine the cattle did not suffer; for the rice crop, though a failure as regards grain, provided a good supply of fodder, and owing to the winter rains grass was fairly abundant. The success of the relief measures is proved by the fact that the mortality during the period of scarcity was rather below than above the normal; and that the people appreciated the endeavours of Government is evidenced by the poems in which they attempted to express their gratitude for the free gifts of money which enabled them to purchase seed, cattle and tools. The following effusion, which he who runs may read, is still current in many villages and may be quoted as a fair specimen :—

Muft taqavi aisi banti,
Bij, bail, donon ko saji;
Jug-jug jio, meri Sarkar,
Jekre adhin sagra sansar.

Prices.

In order to gain some idea of the general tendency of prices, it is necessary to examine the figures of a considerable period. Annual returns are extant from the year 1860 onwards, and from them we can trace the history of prices for the last half century. For this purpose it is sufficient to take four staple food grains: common rice, which is the ordinary food of the people in this district; wheat, the most valuable crop of the *rabi* harvest; barley, which is still more extensively grown and forms an important item in the diet of the people; and gram, the commonest of the pulses in these provinces. From 1861 to 1870, the average recorded prices were common rice, 18·29 *sers*; wheat, 22·39 *sers*; barley, 31·95 *sers*; and gram, 24·85 *sers*. The average figures would have been very much larger in each case but for the bad seasons of 1865 and 1869, which ran prices up to an abnormal height; but apart from these accidental causes, it is clear that during this decade prices generally rose to a point far above the average for the preceding 50 years, a period of cheapness in which the only fluctuations were those due to seasonal causes. This tendency to rise was further illustrated during the ensuing ten years; for between 1871 and 1880, rice averaged 15·65 *sers*, wheat 17·95 *sers*, barley 26 *sers*, and gram 21·28 *sers*. The rates in this case again are somewhat abnormal, for the scarcity of 1873 had a very great effect on the market, and the famine of 1878 surpassed all previous records in the matter of dearness of provisions. Consequently it is not easy to discern the actual extent to which prices were tending to rise during this period, the more so as from 1881 to 1890 there was an apparent relapse. A series of good years restored a normal condition of things, but at the same time there was no approach to the cheap rates prevailing before the famine of 1869. Rice averaged 18·57 *sers*, wheat 19·25 *sers*, barley 28·23 *sers*, and gram 24·3 *sers*. The year 1886 marked the beginning of a general rise in prices throughout the provinces, but the effects of this rise appear to have been felt more gradually in Basti than in those districts which then possessed greater facilities for export. It was not till the development of communications occurred that the general equalization of prices was felt, and the season continued to be the main determining factor for a longer period in Basti than

elsewhere. Thus between 1891 and 1900, the good harvests of the first few years occasioned comparative cheapness, so that when a run of unfavourable seasons began the rise was more sudden and severe than in many parts. For the decade, rice averaged 17·28 *sers*, wheat 14·36 *sers*, barley 18·84 *sers*, and gram 16·58 *sers*; but it is worthy of notice that in the first half of this period rice fetched on an average 24 *sers*, and in the second half the amount obtainable for a rupee was under 13 *sers*. Since 1900, there has been a further rise, but it is impossible to state how far this is due to the nature of the harvest and not to other economic causes. Taking the whole period of 40 years, it appears that prices have increased by about 40 per cent. and the same phenomenon has been observed in all parts of the United Provinces. The conclusion is, however, somewhat vitiated by the fact that we are unable to determine the true state of affairs at the beginning of the period, when there was but little export trade, no steady market demand, and infinitely greater annual fluctuations than can possibly occur at the present time. There is no question as to the rise, and the only matter open to dispute is its extent, and for this we can but depend upon the available statistics.

Wages.

The same difficulty occurs in the matter of wages, though here a greater number of factors has to be taken into account. Wages vary according to age and sex, women usually receiving a quarter, and boys a half, less than men. At the same time the wages of some workmen include what are really the profits of their fixed capital; thus the ploughman who provides his own plough and cattle receives from four to six annas daily according to the season, while an ordinary labourer engaged in the same operation, but working with the master's implements, obtains only two or two and a half annas. Further, agricultural labourers of all kinds are as often paid in kind as in cash; and whichever form their remuneration may take, their wage varies according to the nature of the work. The rate for watching, for example, differs from that for reaping, and reapers sometimes receive, instead of their daily wages, a sixth share of the grain. On the whole, there has been a distinct rise of wages, practically in proportion to the rise of the prices. The agricultural labourer,

who in 1860 was content with one anna, will not now work for less than two annas and generally demands more. The mason or carpenter, whose daily wages ranged from three to five annas, is not to be obtained at a lower rate than four annas, and the same remark applies to all other forms of employment. The increase appears to have been gradual during the last 40 years, though probably it was more marked in the first part of that period than in the last, except in the case of domestic servants.

Interest. The current rates of interest in Basti differ but little from those prevailing in the adjoining districts of Gonda and Fyzabad. The commonest loans are those of grain lent by the village Bania to the cultivators for seed. This is repaid in kind at harvest time together with the interest, which nominally amounts to *siwai* or 25 per cent., but in reality is much more. The reason is that the loan is calculated in cash at a time when grain is dear, and the sum thus debited is again converted into kind at harvest, when grain is cheap, the interest being one-fourth of the latter amount and not of the quantity originally advanced. In cash loans, when goods are offered as security, the rate varies from 18 to 12 per cent. according to the nature of the transaction; but when merely personal security is given, the interest rises from 16 to 37 per cent. The latter form of loan is, however, rare; for money is seldom lent on purely personal security, except to a wealthy firm, and then the interest is much lower, ranging from six to nine per cent. When lands are mortgaged, the rate varies from nine to 18 per cent. A large number of the *zamindars* engage in money-lending, but there are no great firms of any importance which devote their attention exclusively to banking, nor are there any joint stock institutions of this nature. The proposal to start village banks on the co-operative credit system was first made in 1902, but was not favourably received by the *zamindars*. A start was eventually made in 1906, with a central bank at Basti, with a capital of Rs. 10,000 in shares of Rs. 5 each and Rs. 10,000 in deposit at 6¼ per cent. The management is entrusted to a board of ten elected shareholders, who nominate a working committee of three directors, and loans are made to shareholders and to members of the numerous affiliated societies, which are largely caste concerns and consist of ten or more

persons, who are jointly and severally liable for all loans taken from the central bank. Members are elected by the society *panchayat*, the chief condition of membership being a deposit of eight annas for each plough at each harvest. Loans, which are advanced for any object, bear interest at the rate of two annas in the rupee yearly. The affair is still in the experimental stage and it remains to be seen whether it will answer.

Weights and measures.

In the matter of weights and measures the local standards found in Basti present as great a complexity as in Gorakhpur, and even more variations are to be found than in the adjoining districts of Oudh. The people have been slow to adopt the Government *ser* of 80 *tolas*, though it is probable that the development of trade will have a beneficial effect in this direction; but in the mean time a great number of local weights are to be found, differing in almost every market. The unit of weight throughout the district is the copper coin known as the Gorakhpuri or Butwal pice, 22½ of which go to the Government *ser*. Four of these pice make a *ganda*, a term which is common throughout Oudh and the east ; and a varying number of these *gandas* constitute the *panseri* or weight of five local or *kachcha sers*. The latter most commonly consists of eight *gandas*, giving 40 to the *panseri*, which thus is equivalent to 150 *tolas;* but there is also a local *pakka ser* consisting of 25 *gandas* or 194 *tolas*. Thus far the system does not materially differ from that found in Oudh, but mention must also be made of a measure which is peculiar to the Gorakhpur division. This is the *sei*, which is generally employed in weighing grain. The *sei* in like manner differs from place to place, varying with the nature of the grain sold; but ultimately all *seis* are derived from the *sei* of white or husked rice, and this is equivalent to one local *pakka ser*. Sixteen such *seis* make one *mani*, and 16 *manis* make one *gon*. But as unhusked rice weighs about twice as much as white rice, the *mani* in the case of the former consists of only eight *seis*, and five of these *manis* make one *man* or maund, this being equivalent to 48 standard *sers*. These *manis* and *mans* must not be confused with the smaller and less common weight known as *mana;* the latter consists of 6¼ *gandas* or one-fourth of the *pakka* local *ser*. The *sei* is generally used in the northern tahsils,

where rice is the staple crop; the *kachcha ser* is chiefly prevalent in the southern parganas; and the *pakka ser* is in vogue all over the district. When collected into heaps on the threshing-floor, grain is sometimes measured by a standard of capacity called the *pathi*, which varies in different villages and ranges from about 40 to 60 standard *sers*. It is interesting to note that both the *mani* and *pathi* are familiar in the hill country to the south of the Gangetic valley, the former being found in Bundelkhand and the Central Provinces, and the latter in south Mirzapur and Chutia Nagpur.

For measures of length and area the local unit is the *hath* or cubic, and this differs from pargana to pargana; but since the last survey, which was carried out by the imperial department, one uniform *bigha* of 3,025 square yards or five-eighths of an acre has been introduced throughout the district. Unfortunately the Government *bigha* has not succeeded in putting out of fashion the local or *kachcha bigha*, which varies from two-fifths to one-half of the standard measure. It is composed of 24 *mandis*, each of which consists of 25 square *rassis*, the latter measure being equivalent to three *kachcha haths* of varying length, but generally approximating to 20 inches.

Manufactures.

In so purely an agricultural district as Basti it is only natural to find that manufactures in the proper sense of the word are non-existent. The few people who are not engaged in or dependent on cultivation are petty shopkeepers and village craftsmen, who supply the scanty needs of a rural population and meet the local demand for agricultural implements and the common household utensils. Thus the manufactures, such as they are, are merely designed to serve local requirements, and practically none of them find any place in the export trade of the district. According to the returns of the last census the principal industries are those connected with textile fabrics, which gave employment or support to 56,500 persons; wood, cane, and earthen jungle products, 32,500; metals, 29,000; and glass and earthenware, 26,800. Coarse cotton cloth is woven by the Musalman Julahas and the Hindu Koris in many villages, while a finer fabric is the plain muslin known as *girant*. Cotton printing is carried on at a few places, chiefly on the ordinary

country cloth known as *garha*, and the practice is extended to somewhat finer materials at Bahadurpur and the adjoining villages of pargana Nagar. Metal vessels of a simple description are made at a few places, chiefly Bakhira and Mehndawal; but the business is comparatively insignificant. The pottery of the district calls for no special attention, the vessels made being of the ordinary varieties and patterns; though perhaps it is worthy of note that in Basti an exceptionally large proportion of river sand is added to the clay to enable it to stand the heat of the kiln, the amount being as much as one-fourth, while elsewhere it is seldom more than one-tenth. Work in cane and wicker is frequently to be seen, and the baskets produced in some parts of the district, and notably the Cooke grant, are worthy of special note.

Under these conditions the export trade of the district is mainly confined to raw agricultural produce. This term includes unrefined sugar, a considerable amount of which is produced and sold in the form of *gur*, *rab* and molasses. The chief staple of commerce, however, is rice, followed by wheat and other grains and oilseeds. As a rule the district produces far more grain than it requires for local consumption, and the surplus stock is carried by rail or by river to all parts of India, the traffic in spring grains lasting from April to August. The articles chiefly imported from British territory are raw cotton, piecegoods and salt, while next come metal vessels, stone and timber. As practically no cotton is produced in the district, it has to be imported from Cawnpore and elsewhere; European piecegoods come chiefly from Calcutta, though small quantities are sent from Bombay. The foreign traffic is of considerable importance, for nearly half the trade between Nepal and these provinces is registered in this district, though the opening of new routes in connection with the extension of the railway has of late years caused some diversion. Until 1856, Basti was bounded on the three sides by native territory, the result being seen in the general stagnation of trade. The annexation of Oudh introduced unfettered commerce with the tracts to the south and west; but on the north the Nepalese authorities still impose certain restrictions on the natural course of trade. The bulk of the traffic passing to and from Nepal

Commerce.

has to pass through certain Nepalese marts which lie between the frontier and the foot of the hills; the chief being Sirsewa, Bahadurganj, Captainganj, Taulihwa and Butwal. In these bazars both import and export duties are levied on Nepalese goods; the former in the shape of octroi, and the latter consisting in customs dues, a tax of a fixed amount called *adhanni, arhat* or commission, and *tolai* or weighment fees. Besides these, a number of other exactions are made, including a duty levied on cartmen at the rate of one anna per rupee of hire paid by traders for the conveyance of their goods across the border. Articles sent from British territory to Nepal are, however, only liable to import duty.

Nepal trade.

The two principal routes by which the trade formerly entered Basti were, firstly, that from Sirsewa, Bahadurganj and Captainganj, by way of Marni in the north-west corner of the district, or by Kakrahi-ghat on the Banganga, above that river's junction with the Rapti; and secondly, from Butwal by way of Lotan or Uska. A change occurred with the metalling of the road from Uska to Birdpur, necessitating the establishment of a new registration post at Naugarh, whence the goods were carted to Uska and the railway. More recently the extension of the line from Uska to Tulsipur and Gonda has caused a further change, the traffic going by road to the stations at Naugarh and Shohratganj. From Naugarh there are two routes, one going directly north from Birdpur, and the other turning east from the latter place and reaching Nepal by way of the new Kakrahwa bazar near the frontier; while from Shohratganj there is no regular road, though various cart tracks are privately maintained. Traffic is registered at Naugarh, Shohratganj, Kakrahwa, Lotan, Sohas, Ledwa-ghat, and Marni; but at present the first three posts are alone of importance, Naugarh heading the list with no less than five lakhs of maunds of grain in 1904. The commodities supplied by Nepal consist largely of unhusked rice and wheat; while barley, millets, gram and other pulses are imported in smaller quantities. Other articles include *ghi,* drugs and spices, fibres, oilseeds and timber. The exports are chiefly cotton goods, metals, salt, sugar, oil, and wool. The import trade largely exceed the exports, owing to the value of the grain and

timber sent from Nepal. This traffic is growing rapidly, and a large extension may be expected in the near future, consequent on the development of the railway system. From 1896 to 1901, the imports averaged 646,000 maunds valued at about 28 lakhs, and the exports 78,200 maunds valued at 13½ lakhs; while in 1903 the value of the imports was over 47 lakhs, though the exports were not much more than 11 lakhs.

Markets. For the purpose of internal commerce there are several places in every pargana where markets are held weekly or oftener, and a list of these bazars will be found in the appendix. Till comparatively recently, the only mart in the district with any real pretension to a large business was Mehndawal; but the extension of the railway to Uska diverted the grain trade from the former place, which now lies between two branches of the railway and is somewhat remote from either. The bazar is still, however, of some importance, serving as a place of exchange between the products of the plains and those of the hills. It imports iron drugs and spices from Nepal; large quantities of turmeric from the east of Gorakhpur and the districts of Bihar; tobacco from Chapra; and metal vessels, cotton, cloth and salt from the tracts south of the Ghagra. A project has recently been sanctioned for connecting Mehndawal with the main line of railway by a metalled road, and this should do something to revive the former importance of the place. Uska, which superseded Mehndawal, when it became the rail depôt for the grain traffic of the north, has now been supplanted to some extent by the markets of Naugarh and Shohratganj, which have sprung up along the new line of railway. The Naugarh bazar is at present the most important grain market in the north of the district, and its prominence will be further enhanced if the metalled road on which it lies be extended to the Nepal border. The bazar of Biskohar, on the other hand, has declined of late, partly owing to the customs regulations in force in Nepal, and partly from the absence of good communications. Few among the smaller internal markets deserve any special notice; but mention may be made of Bardand, Bakhira, Gaighat, Hainsar, Dubaulia, Budwal, Lotan, Lalganj, Bansi, Maghar, Nagar and Domariaganj. At all of these the articles exposed for sale are of much the same

nature, the commonest wares being cotton and woollen cloth, metal utensils, cutlery, rice and other grains, salt, spices, sugar-cane, toys, shoes, decorated caps, and cheap female ornaments.

Fairs.

Another list given in the appendix shows the various fairs which are held in many places in the district. These take place on the occasion of the Hindu and Musalman festivals, but many of them are really commercial rather than religious in character. The largest of these gatherings is that held at Sirsi in pargana Amorha on the full moon of Chait; it is known as the Ashnan Makhira, being ostensibly a bathing fair, and is attended by about 100,000 persons. Next in point of size comes the Sheoratri fair at Tama in pargana Maghar East, at which the estimated attendance is about 30,000; but at none of the others does the number of pilgrims approach this figure, the chief being the bathing fairs at Bharat Bhari in Rasulpur, and at Hanumanpur and Bharkahwa in Amorha. The majority of these fairs are of Hindu origin, but a few, and those of very small dimensions, are held in honour of the mythical Musalman martyr, Saiyid Salar, otherwise known as Bala Pir or Ghazi Miyan. None of the assemblages in this district is deemed of sufficient size or turbulence to require the attendance of an additional police force.

Communications.

For many years after the introduction of the British rule, Basti enjoyed the evil reputation of almost complete separation from the rest of the world. At the cession of the district in 1801, there were practically no roads deserving of the name, and the chief, if not the only, means of communication were those provided by the Ghagra and Kuwana rivers, along which the bulk of the traffic was carried. Several roads came into existence at an early date, but none of them were properly bridged or drained, so that they became impassable during the rains, and none of them were metalled till after the mutiny, when the trunk road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur was completed as a continuation of the system of military roads which were constructed in the newly-acquired province of Oudh. This road, being metalled and bridged throughout its length, except at the crossing of the Ghagra opposite Fyzabad, became the chief highway of the district; while of the local roads the most important included those from Basti to Domariaganj and Singarjot in the north-west, to Bansi and

the Nepal border in the north-north-east, to Mehndawal on the east, and to Tanda ferry on the Ghagra to the south. This last road subsequently served to provide Basti with a means of access to Akbarpur in Fyzabad on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway which was opened in 1874. The Akbarpur station was, however, 30 miles distant from Basti, and that of Fyzabad no less than 40 miles, while during the rains the Ghagra made the connection well nigh impracticable. Though the road communications of the district were rapidly extended and improved, no great change occurred till the construction of the Bengal and North-Western Railway and the completion of the great bridge over the Ghagra at Bahramghat, the latter being opened in 1898. By these means Basti was provided with uninterrupted railway communication between Gorakhpur and Bengal on the one side and Lucknow and Cawnpore on the other, so that its position in this respect is now fairly satisfactory. Further improvements have been made in more recent years by the construction of the branch line in the north and by metalling several of the roads, though the latter process admits of further development.

Railways.

The main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway traverses the south of the district from east to west, passing through the parganas of Maghar East, Mahuli West, Basti East, and Basti West. There are stations at Maghar, Khalilabad, Munderwa, Basti, Tinich, Gaur, and Babhnan, the last being on the Gonda border. The railway, which is of the metre gauge, was begun in 1882, and opened for traffic on the 15th of January 1885. On the 15th of December in the following year a branch line was opened between Gorakhpur and Uska, its object being to tap the large grain trade from Nepal and the north of the district. Its success induced the Company to extend the line so as to form a connecting link with the branch from Gonda to Tulsipur. The project was sanctioned in 1903 and the work of construction was commenced immediately. The line runs from Uska through the centre of Bansi East and the north-east portion of Bansi West, and the first section, Uska to Barhni near Nepal frontier, was opened on the 5th of January 1905, the remainder being completed about a year later. The stations on this branch line are at Uska, Naugarh, Kandwa near Chilia, Shohratganj, Parsa, and Barhni; and at all

of these, except Chilia and Parsa, important bazars are springing up. The railway has already succeeded in attracting the trade of the large Nepalese markets at Taulihwa, Sirsewa and Bahadurganj, and its future prosperity seems assured. The only additional line which the requirements of the district possibly demand, is one direct from Khalilabad to Tulsipur, so as to open up communication with Mehndawal, Bansi and other markets of the interior.

Metalled roads. A list of all the roads at present maintained in the district will be found in the appendix and their position has been shown on the map. From the list it will be seen that the trunk road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur is the only one maintained from provincial funds. This is 62 miles in length, and passes through Haraiya, Captainganj, Basti, Khalilabad and Maghar. The remainder are local roads, and the cost of their maintenance is defrayed by the district board, although the agency of the Public Works department is employed for keeping up the metalled roads. These local roads are divided into four classes. The first of these comprises those known as first class roads, metalled, bridged and drained throughout, and under this head come the Basti station roads, that from Uska to Birdpur, and the road from Basti to Bansi. The district still suffers from a deficient supply of metalled roads. The original scheme was to connect Basti with the Nepal frontier by such a road, but there is still a large gap between Bansi and Naugarh, which is neither bridged nor metalled, but is generally under water during the rains; while at Birdpur the road stops seven miles short of the district border. As already mentioned in the previous paragraph, a scheme was long under consideration for connecting Mehndawal with the railway, either at Khalilabad or at Sahjanwa, a station in the Gorakhpur district. The portion between Mehndawal and Bakhira, which was common to both projects, was the first to be taken in hand, and eventually the choice fell upon Khalilabad, this route involving a bridge over the Ami river. Another important project is that of metaling the road from Basti to Domariaganj, while others relate to the construction of feeder roads for the new railway from Uska to Tulsipur.

Of the unmetalled roads, 153 miles are bridged and drained throughout, the most important being those from Basti to Domariaganj, Intwa and the Nepal frontier; from Basti to Tanda ferry; from Basti to Mehndawal; and those from Khalilabad to Mehndawal on the north and Chhapra on the south. The remaining metalled roads are merely cart tracks and are only maintained as such, with the exception of those which pass through the estates of the European proprietors, who have not only kept them in good order but have also planted excellent avenues of trees along them. The total length of the local metalled roads in 1905 was 151 miles, and that of the unmetalled roads 559 miles. Although these figures represent a large addition to the mileage during recent years, the numerous rivers and streams still form a considerable obstacle to the traffic and more bridges are much needed. There are no permanent bridges over the Rapti, though temporary ones are maintained during the dry season at Bansi, Gaura, Domariaganj and Bitharia; while the only bridges over the more important streams, apart from those on the provincial road, include one over the Manwar at Baili; two over the Ami, near Rudhauli and Nandaur; two over the Katnehia, on the roads from Basti to Bansi and Mehndawal; and one over the Jamuwar at Naugarh, though this was destroyed by a flood in 1903, and has not yet been rebuilt. Unmetalled roads.

The want of bridges is supplied to some extent by the numerous ferries, of which a list will be found in the appendix. With a single exception, all the principal ferries are on the Ghagra giving access to the Fyzabad district, and are under the management of the district board. The exception is the public ferry on the Ami, where the road connecting Mehndawal with Khalilabad crosses that river. Elsewhere the ferries are private, and the majority are maintained by the Raja of Bansi, whose payment is fixed for the term of settlement and forms part of his revenue engagement. The two most important ferries on the Rapti are those at Bansi and Domariaganj, for which bridges of boats are substituted in the dry season. The most frequented crossings on the Kuwana are those at Lalganj, Mansurnagar and Mukhlispur. Ferries.

On the provincial road there is a dak bungalow at Basti, and departmental inspection bungalows at Basti, Munderwa, Bungalows.

Haraiya and Bikramjot. Encamping-grounds are maintained on the same road at Khalilabad, Munderwa, Basti, Tilakpur near Captainganj, Sisai near Haraiya, and Kalyanpur. On the local roads inspection bungalows are to be found at Bansi, Domariaganj, Intwa, Uska and Mehndawal. The district board undertakes the up-keep of *sarais* for the convenience of travellers at Basti, Khalilabad and Domariaganj.

Waterways.

In former days, as already mentioned, a considerable portion of the district traffic was river-borne, the principal route being along the Ghagra and its tributaries to Calcutta. Even now there is a regular river service between Ajodhya in Fyzabad and Bengal, but there are no longer any ports of call in this district, the steamers and other boats only touching at places on the Fyzabad bank. Such calling places used no doubt at one time to exist at Dhanghata, Gaighat, and elsewhere, but these markets have long ago being deserted by the Ghagra, which now takes a more southerly course. Of the tributaries of the Ghagra the Rapti is navigable throughout its length in this district by boats of a hundred maunds burthen; while during the rains vessels of similar capacity ply on the Banganga, though at other seasons, this stream is useless for navigation. The Kunhra, when flooded, is deep and wide enough to carry country boats of any size, and formerly rice and other grains used to be sent down the river past Uska to its junction with the Rapti, whence the goods were sent, after reshipment in larger vessels, through Gorakhpur to the Ghagra. Most of this traffic has, however, disappeared, as the railway, with its more safe and expeditious means of transit, has practically supplanted the rivers. The Kuwana is still employed to some extent, though boats seldom ascend the stream beyond Lalganj, and above Deoraon, at any rate, navigation is impossible owing to the number of rough pile bridges constructed during the dry season.

CHAPTER III.

THE PEOPLE.

Up to 1865 Gorakhpur and Basti formed a single district, and when the separation took place it was made without respect to the boundaries of the old fiscal subdivisions, at any rate so far as the parganas of Maghar and Binayakpur were concerned. For this reason it is now impossible to ascertain exactly the total population at the early enumerations, for although the figures of the separate parganas are available, it is merely possible to obtain a rough approximation for the whole district by deducting one-third of the number of inhabitants in Maghar. The first attempt at a census was that of Dr. Buchanan in 1813. The total was calculated on certain rather arbitrary premises, the agricultural population, for instance, being deduced from the number of ploughs; and in this manner he obtained an aggregate of 102,478 families, or if we allow five persons to a family, a population of 512,390 for those police circles or portions of circles which represent the modern district. The attempt is of some interest as being one of the first efforts to carry out an enumeration in these provinces, but quite useless from a statistical point of view. No further steps were taken till 1847, when a regular census was made. On the supposition that exactly one-third of Maghar passed to Gorakhpur, the population of Basti was then 937,771 or about 345 to the square mile. There was no town with more than 5,000 inhabitants, though the Birdpur grant, which was treated as a single village, contained a large number of persons. This census was never considered to be very accurate, and the methods employed were somewhat crude: a distinction was made between Hindus and Musalmans, agriculturists and others, but sex was left out of account. The next enumeration was that of 1853, and on this occasion the approximate figure was 1,235,720, of whom 590,702 were females. The density had risen to 453 to the square mile, ranging from 691 in Amorha and 628 in Nagar to

Early enumerations.

149 in Binayakpur. The largest village was Birdpur with 11,715 inhabitants, while next came the town of Mehndawal with 7,273. A third regular census was taken in 1865, but on this occasion the Basti figures were still unsevered from those of Gorakhpur, and the total can but roughly be calculated. After the same deduction as before, the population numbered 1,419,842 souls, including 674,465 females. The average density was about 508 to the square mile, Amorha coming first with 634, but showing a somewhat remarkable decline, as was the case in all the southern parganas, and Bansi last with 447, the northern tract having evidently developed with great rapidity. The only town which in this enumeration possessed over 5,000 inhabitants was Mehndawal, 7,349, though Birdpur, with its population of 13,671, was still entered as a single parish.

Census of 1872.

With the census of 1872 we reach firmer ground. By this time the district had assumed its present form, and it is possible to determine exactly the number of persons enumerated in Basti. The total population on this occasion was 1,492,994 persons, of whom 688,322 were females. The average density was 528 to the square mile, ranging from 652 in pargana Amorha to 328 in Bansi West; in Nagar East and Basti East the figure exceeded 600, while throughout the Bansi tahsil it was considerably below the general average. The district then contained 6,911 towns and villages, of which 6,821 contained less than a thousand persons apiece; 88 between one and five thousand; and the remaining two, Basti and Menhdawal, between five and ten thousand.

Census of 1881.

The next census was taken in 1881, and it was then ascertained that, in spite of the scarcity of 1874 and the famine of 1877, the population had increased with considerable rapidity. The total number of inhabitants had risen to 1,630,612, showing a gain of 157,583 persons. This increase was common to every tahsil of the district, but was far greater in Bansi than elsewhere, and least in Domariaganj. It is noticeable that females had increased far more rapidly than males, for of the total addition to the population over 118,000 were of the former sex, the whole number of females being 806,361. The average density for the district was now 592 persons to the square mile—a very high figure for a tract possessing no large towns. Altogether there

were 7,295 towns and villages, of which 7,183 contained less than a thousand inhabitants, 109 others less than five thousand, while the remaining three with a larger population were Mehndawal, Basti and Uska.

Census of 1891.

The census of 1891 followed on a period of general prosperity, and a large enhancement was naturally expected. The result justified this anticipation, for the population increased by 155,232 persons, the total number of inhabitants being 1,785,844. Females again showed a more rapid rate of increase, numbering in all 878,507. The addition to the population had on this occasion been greatest in the Basti tahsil, and least in Haraiya, as was only to be expected, this being the most highly developed portion of the district. The average density at this census was 645·1 persons to the square mile. The district then contained 6,863 towns and villages, of which 6,711 possessed less than a thousand inhabitants, 149 others less than five thousand, the remaining three being the same as before, although the rapid increase on the part of Basti itself had now caused that town to assume the leading position.

Census of 1901.

The last enumeration was that of 1st March 1901. It was then found that the district contained a total population of 1,846,153 persons, showing an increase of 60,309 over the previous figure. This rise in the aggregate number was rather remarkable, for the adjoining districts of Gonda and Gorakhpur at the same time exhibited a marked decline, while in Fyzabad to the south the population had remained almost stationary. The result shows that Basti had suffered little, if at all, from the famine which raged throughout the provinces in 1897, and though the rate of increase of the two preceding decades had not been maintained, the addition to the population was very pronounced in comparison with the heavy losses observed in all the eastern districts of the United Provinces. The average density had risen to 670·9 persons to the square mile, and this figure places Basti with its almost exclusively rural population in a very conspicuous position in respect of density among the districts of the provinces. The average is exceeded in the Fyzabad and Bara Banki districts of Oudh, in Azamgarh, and in the Ballia, Jaunpur and Benares districts of the Benares division. Of the

various tahsils the most thickly populated is Basti with a mean density of 726, followed by Khalilabad with 706. Next comes Haraiya with 667 persons to the square mile, and Bansi with 656; while Domariaganj occupies the lowest place with an average of 598. These last two figures are very remarkable, as showing the striking rate of development which has been attained in the northern tahsils during the past 50 years.

Immigration.

To what extent, if any, the increase of the last census was due to immigration is not easy to determine; but this factor does not appear to have played any part in the addition to the population, but rather the reverse. Of the whole number of inhabitants, 94·88 per cent. were natives of the district, 4·17 per cent. were born in adjacent districts, and ·94 per cent. came from elsewhere. The proportion of immigrants consequently amounts to 5·1 per cent., and not only is this identical with the figure ascertained at the preceding enumeration, but at the same time is lower than in any other part of the United Provinces except Bijnor and the hill district of Garhwal. Further, the addition to the population coming under this head was more than counterbalanced by the stream of emigration; for of all the persons enumerated in India who gave Basti as their birthplace, 651 per cent. were found in other districts or provinces. Added to this, no fewer than 21,234 persons left Basti for places beyond the borders of India and went to the West Indies, Fiji, Natal and elsewhere, the number of emigrants registered during the preceding decade being larger than in any other district. A considerable number of these no doubt returned during the same period, but at the same time many leave the district without registration, and it appears to be conclusively proved that the increase in the population was in no way due to external causes.

Towns and villages.

The census returns show that no less than 98·2 per cent. of the population may be classed as rural, and the proportion living in towns is lower than in any other district except Sultanpur and Garhwal. Even the towns may be described as overgrown agricultural villages, and none of them has attained the status of a municipality. There were altogether 6,907 inhabited towns and villages, and of these 6,742 contained less than a thousand persons apiece; while of the remainder 131

held populations of under two thousand, and 31 between two and five thousand. The three towns with a larger number of inhabitants comprised Basti, Mehndawal and Uska. Biskohar, though still administered under Act XX of 1856, is a very unimportant place, with a population of only 2,725. The villages are of the usual type common to the eastern districts. Two-thirds of the inhabitants live in villages containing less than 500 persons, and the great number of these small hamlets, for they are little else, is one of the most striking features of the district. As rule the Basti village consists of a small collection of mud houses, erected on a spot somewhat elevated above the level of the fields, especially in those parts where the country is liable to inundation. A very small proportion of the dwelling-houses consists of brick structures, and such buildings are seldom to be seen save in the towns and a few of the larger villages, such as Bakhira, Maghar and Hariharpur.

Of the total population enumerated at the last census, 935,556 were males and 910,597 females. There are thus 97·3 females to every hundred males, the proportion closely approximating to that observed in the neighbouring districts of Gonda and Fyzabad. In Gorakhpur, on the other hand, we find an excess of females, as is the case thoughout all the eastern districts and in the south of Oudh. There is very little difference in this respect between the various tahsils, though the preponderance of males is slightly less marked in the eastern subdivisions of Bansi and Khalilabad than in the western half of the district. During the past 40 years the proportionate number of females has shown a considerable increase, though this has been accompanied by somewhat peculiar variations. In 1872 there were but 87·7 females to a hundred males, and this rose to 97·8 in 1881, though at the following census it fell again to 96·8. The net increase has been 9·6 per cent, and though this was exceeded in Gorakhpur and a few other districts, it is sufficiently noteworthy. It is impossible to say how far the increase is real rather than apparent, for it is notorious that in former enumerations there was a general tendency to conceal the presence of females. But that there has been an actual increase cannot be doubted, and though the phenomenon is frequently ascribed to the extinction of

Sex.

infanticide, which in former times was certainly very prevalent, it seems more reasonable to set it down to greater prosperity, resulting in more care being devoted to female children.

Religions.

Of the whole population, as classified by religions according to the returns of the last census, 1,546,236 or 83·75 per cent. were Hindus; 299,688 or 16·23 per cent. Musalmans; 93 Christians, 54 Aryas, 75 Sikhs and seven Jains. The proportion of Musalmans is distinctly high, at any rate for the eastern half of the provinces, being nowhere exceeded in the Gorakhpur, Benares or Allahabad divisions. At the same time it appears that Musalmans exhibit a tendency to increase more rapidly than their Hindu neighbours. This phenomenon is by no means peculiar to Basti, as it has been observed in almost every district. At the enumerations of 1853 and 1865 the proportion of Musalmans was 13·91 and 14·75 per cent. respectively, while in 1881 it had risen to 15·46, and the more rapid rate of increase has been since maintained. The numerical relation of the Musalman to the Hindu population varies considerably in the different tahsils of the district. It is highest in Domariaganj, where the Muhammadan inhabitants comprise over 25 per cent. of the whole number; while next comes Khalilabad with 18 per cent. Elsewhere the figure is below the general average, being 15 per cent. in Bansi, 13 per cent. in Basti, and only 8·2 per cent. in Haraiya.

Christianity.

Of the less important religions there is but little to be said. Christianity has not as yet made much headway in the district, although the Church Missionary Society has long been established at Basti and maintains a high school there with a large attendance. There is, however, no resident missionary, and no attempts have been made to establish stations in other parts of the district. Of the whole Christian community only 53 were natives, and of these 24 belonged to the Church of England, seven were Methodists, and 21 returned no specific denomination. The number of native Christians has risen to its present figure from 25 in 1881 and 38 in 1891. There is a small church at Basti, built by public subscription in 1872 and consecrated by Bishop Milman on the 29th of April 1874; it is dedicated to St. James. The station is visited periodically by the Church Missionary Society's Chaplain at Gorakhpur.

The Arya Samaj has made no greater progress. In 1891 there were 60 members of this creed, so that during the following ten years there was an actual decrease. The movement was first started at Basti in 1883, where a small Samaj of about 40 members was instituted and a piece of land was purchased with the object of erecting thereon a building for Arya worship. The project, however, fell through, and by 1893 the institution had practically ceased to exist. An attempt at a revival was made in 1900, and since that time meetings have been regularly held by a small body of Aryas: in 1904 a Sanskrit school was started, though it had to be closed after a career of nine months. The Basti Arya Samaj is affiliated to the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Agra, but at the present time few active measures are taken for the propagation of the creed. Of the Aryas enumerated, 23 were found in the Basti tahsil, 14 in Khalilabad and 12 in Domariaganj. The members are almost wholly confined to the Brahman, Kayasth, Bania and Rajput castes. Of the other religions, the Sikhs are the most important, but they mainly consist of persons in Government service; 53 of them reside in the Haraiya tahsil, but the only landowner of this creed is Babu Dalip Singh of Tilja in Maghar East. The few Jains reside at Bansi. **Aryas.**

Hindu sects. The great mass of the Hindus in this district belong to no particular religious sect or denomination, as is the case indeed throughout the provinces. The proximity of Ajodhya has no doubt a considerable influence, and this is shown by the fact that at the last census the number of persons who declared themselves followers of Saivite sects was quite insignificant, whereas the Vaishnavites numbered nearly 16,000. None of the recognised Vaishnavite sects, however, occurs in any strength, the chief being the Ramanandis, with some 7,000 representatives, while after these come Satnamis and Bishnois. A fairly well-defined sect is that of the worshippers of Panchon Pir, of whom 38,000 were enumerated, this cult being extensively found throughout the Gorakhpur and Benares divisions, although the number in Basti is comparatively small.

Hindu castes. The only important division of the Hindus is that according to caste. The last census returns show that the population included members of no fewer than 90 different castes, apart

from subdivisions, while in the case of 3,464 persons no caste was specified. Only a few of these, however, are of any real importance. There are four castes with more than 100,000 representatives, and these together account for 51·12 per cent. of the total Hindu population. Sixteen others were found in numbers exceeding 20,000 apiece, and these made up an additional 33·94 per cent.; while in nine more instances the aggregate exceeded 10,000, making up a further 8·64 per cent., so that over 95 per cent. of the Hindus are included in 29 castes. As a rule, the castes of Basti present no peculiar features, and though in several cases they are found in unusual numbers, this is only due to the fact that the total population is so large, rendering the preponderance is absolute rather than relative.

Chamars.

First in point of numbers, though occupying a very low social position, come the Chamars, of whom there were 277,838 at the last census or 17·97 per cent. of the Hindu population. They take the foremost place in every tahsil of the district and are very evenly distributed. The Chamars constitute the great bulk of the agricultural and general labourers of the district, but are frequently found as tenants and are cultivators of some capacity and great industry. Practically none of them are proprietors, and at the last settlement only 29 acres were owned by this caste.

Brahmans.

In the second place come the Brahmans, with 195,400 representatives or 12·64 per cent. of the Hindu community. They are most numerous in the Haraiya and Basti tahsils, but are found in strength throughout the district. Both as proprietors and cultivators they hold more land than any other caste, but are inferior agriculturists, owing largely to their prejudice against handling a plough. The vast majority of the Brahmans of Basti belong to the Sarwaria division, and the others are but sparsely represented; there are a few Kanaujias, Gaurs, Gautams and Sakaldipis, but none of these are of any importance in this district. The Sarwarias, whose name denotes the dwellers beyond the Sarju or Ghagra, claim to have come from Ajodhya, and are regarded as inferior to the Kanaujias and Gaurs.

Ahirs.

Ahirs numbered 185,081 souls or 11·97 per cent. of the Hindus. They are most numerous in the Khalilabad tahsil, while Bansi comes next with a slightly smaller figure. The Ahirs are

almost wholly engaged in agricultural pursuits and in the care of cattle. They hold a fair amount of land as proprietors and rank fifth as cultivators, constituting, together with the Kurmis and Koeris, the backbone of the agriculturists in this district. In the number of Ahirs Basti is only surpassed by Gorakhpur and Azamgarh of all the districts of the United Provinces, and their presence in such strength is a matter of considerable economic importance.

Kurmis. Still more valuable are the Kurmis, of whom there were 147,535, or 9·54 per cent. of the whole Hindu community. This figure is only surpassed in Gorakhpur and Bara Banki, and the great number of Kurmis is the most prominent feature in the agriculture of the district. As usual, the Kurmis generally hold the best lands, and are consequently far more numerous in the Basti and Haraiya tahsils than elsewhere. In Domariaganj they are not found in great numbers, although their largest possessions lie in that subdivision. Altogether they hold over two per cent. of the total area of the district, and as tenants they cultivate more than any caste except Brahmans.

Banias. No other caste has more than 100,000 representatives, but several of the remainder are found in large numbers and among them are some of the most important communities in the district. Banias numbered 52,203 or 3·37 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are fairly evenly distributed, though slightly more numerous in the Haraiya and Khalilabad tahsils than elsewhere. As usual, they are for the most part engaged in trade, though a fair number of them have betaken themselves to agriculture and they hold a considerable amount of land in proprietary right, especially in Khalilabad and Domariaganj, owning altogether somewhat more than three per cent. of the district. The Banias of Basti belong to many subdivisions, though three clans largely preponderate. The Kasaundhans, of whom there were 16,163, a figure only exceeded in Gorakhpur, rank high among the members of the caste, and are most numerous in Haraiya. Agraharis are more common in Basti than in any other district, numbering 15,133 souls, and this total is only approached in the neighbouring districts of Fyzabad, Sultanpur, and Jaunpur; here they are found in all parts, though chiefly in Basti and Domariaganj. The Kandus,

who rank low among Banias, as they eat flesh and permit widow marriage, numbered 11,214. This figure is exceeded in other districts of the Gorakhpur division, and in Ballia and Ghazipur, the clan being mainly confined to the eastern part of the provinces; the bulk of them reside in the Khalilabad and Bansi tahsils. Other subdivisions include the Baranwals, 1,924, who are said to derive their name from the ancient town of Bulandshahr, but somewhat curiously are more numerous here than in any other district except Azamgarh; Umars, Agarwals, Rustogis and Rauniars, a clan which is confined to the eastern districts. The Baranwals mainly belong to Khalilabad, and the bulk of the Umars, Rustogis and Rauniars reside in the Bansi tahsil. In Haraiya 516 Kolapuri Banias were enumerated, a subdivision of the caste which is also found in Gonda, Gorakhpur, Ghazipur and Jaunpur.

Rajputs.

Next come the Rajputs, with a total of 49,934 persons, or 3·22 per cent. of the Hindu community. They are most numerous in the Haraiya and Basti tahsils, and in those subdivisions they hold the largest amount of land, but excepting the Brahmans they are the principal proprietors in all parts of the district, owning nearly one-third of the entire area. They also take a very prominent position as cultivators, tilling more than 100,000 acres of land; but their capacity as husbandmen is not great, and little superior to that of the Brahmans. The Rajputs of the district are drawn from an almost infinite variety of clans, and of those detailed in the census report as many as 24 had over 200 representatives. A few stand out prominently, and the foremost place is taken by the Surajbansis, of whom there were 14,100—a far higher figure than that observed in any other district. Though they claim to be descended from the ancient kings of Ajodhya, their standing is not particularly high, and there is a fairly general tradition that they spring from colonists from Kumaun and other hill tracts. Their head of the clan is the Raja of Mahuli, and the Surajbansis are more common in Haraiya and the southern parts of the district than in the north. The Gautams, of whom there were 5,180—a figure which is only exceeded in Gorakhpur and Fatehpur—belong mainly to the Basti and Haraiya tahsils, and several families of this clan are of considerable importance, having sprung from the ruling house of Nagar. But the same cannot

be said of the Bais, of whom there were 4,231 in different parts of the district; as in Fyzabad, they appear to be of indigenous origin, and have no connection with the famous races of southern Oudh. The Kalhans, on the other hand, have for centuries occupied a prominent place in the history of this district, as also of Gonda. They numbered 3,418, and are chiefly found in the Basti and Domariaganj tahsils. Other well represented clans are Bisens, 2,891, all of whom claim connection with the great house of Majhauli in Gorakhpur; Rathors, 1,787, in Basti and Khalilabad; Chauhans, 1,493, half of whom belong to Haraiya; and the Raghubansis, 919, chiefly in Basti and Haraiya. The last claim Ajodhya as their home, and at any rate appear to have been settled in this and the neighbouring districts for a longer period than any other Rajput clan. Mention may also be made of the Bachhils, who are confined to the Domariaganj tahsil, Panwars, Raikwars, Gaharwars, Bachgotis, and Sikarwars, all of whom have more than 500 representatives, the last residing in Khalilabad. Of the unspecified clans the most important perhaps are the Palwars, who are found in considerable numbers in the south of the district, and also in the other parts of the Gorakhpur division and in Fyzabad, where was their original home.*

Other large castes.

Few of the remaining Hindu castes call for any special mention, although several occur in large numbers. Those with over 30,000 members apiece include Kahars, 47,936, Kewats, 40,315, Kumhars, 37,735, Dhobis, 36,277, Telis, 31,519, and Muraos, 30,001. None of these present any peculiar features, nor occur in unusual strength, except perhaps the Muraos, who correspond to the Kachhis of other districts and are market gardeners and cultivators of a high order; they are most numerous in the Bansi and the Domariaganj tahsils. The Kewats, too, are admirable cultivators; they belong chiefly to the eastern parts of the district, adjoining Gorakhpur, where a far greater number of them reside. Eight castes occur with more than 20,000 representatives, namely, Barhais, Barais or *pan*-growers, Bhars, Lunias, Lodhs, Lohars, Nais, and Kayasths. The last are the most important, owning a considerable amount of land in all tahsils of the district, amounting to about seven per cent. of the whole, and frequently cultivating their fields themselves;

* Gazetteer of Fyzabad, p. 89.

the vast majority of them belong to the great Sribastab subdivision. Then follow nine castes found in numbers exceeding 10,000, Pasis, Chains, Koeris, Bhuinhars, Kalwars, Mallahs, Gadariyas, Sonars and Bharbhunjas. Of these, the Chains or Chais are the most important, as being far more numerous in Basti than in any other district, with a total of 19,292 persons; they are also found in Gonda and Bahraich, and to a much less extent in Gorakhpur, Partabgarh and Azamgarh. They are a cultivating and fishing caste, somewhat closely related to Mallahs, and have an unenviable reputation for theft. The Koeris, who are more numerous in Khalilabad and Basti than in other tahsils, are cultivators of great ability, and are common throughout the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions. So, too, are the Bhuinhars, who often claim to be Brahmans, but are undoubtedly a distinct caste.

Uncommon castes.

Some of the smaller Hindu castes deserve notice as being more numerous in Basti than elsewhere. Such are the Sorahiyas, of whom there were 5,823, mostly in the Basti tahsil. They are only found in the Gorakhpur division and in Gonda, but appear to be little different from Mallahs, being by profession boatment, fishermen and cultivators. Baris are also very numerous, with the total of 5,239, though this is exceeded in Gonda and Partabgarh; their peculiar occupation is that of making cups and platters from leaves, but they are very frequently engaged in domestic service. Dharkars, 4,743, are only more common in Mirzapur, but like many of the Basti castes they are in reality a subdivision of Doms; they frequently style themselves as Benbansis. The Kharots, of whom there were 4,707, are mainly found in the Khalilabad and Haraiya tahsils and occur in hardly any other district; but they are probably identical either with Kewats or Beldars, and are day labourers by occupation. The Atits are comparatively numerous as in Gorakhpur, chiefly in the southern parganas; they represent rather a religious sect than a caste, and closely correspond to the Sannyasis of other parts. Almost all the minor castes are represented, but none of them are peculiar to Basti, and with the exception of the Kanjars none are found in greater numbers than elsewhere, while the Kanjars themselves are too well known to require any description.

Almost all the Musalmans of Basti are followers of the Sunni sect, which at the last census claimed no less than 96·9 per cent. of the Muhammadan population. The number of Shias is insignificant, being less than 4,000 or only 1·3 per cent., although this proportion even is greater than in Gorakhpur. Some 5,000 belonged to no specified division, returning as their sect the name of some Muhammadan saint; while a very small number style themselves Wahabis. The Wahabis belong chiefly to the village of Karhi in tappa Ujiar of pargana Maghar, and at one time they maintained there a small school which acquired a local reputation, but the institution has practically passed out of existence. The Musalman community is made up of almost as great a number of divisions and castes as that of the Hindus. At the last census representatives were found of no less than 67 different castes or tribes, while in the case of 654 persons no caste was specified. A great number of these are very small and unimportant, and the majority have their Hindu counterparts. Only seven possess more than 10,000 members apiece, and these together make up 76·15 per cent. of the whole number; while 13 others with over 2,000 representatives contribute a further 18·4 per cent., and 35 are found in numbers less than 500. Musalmans.

In the first place come the Sheikhs, of whom there were 49,825 or 16·63 per cent. of the Musalman community. They are most numerous in the Khalilabad and Domariaganj tahsils, while in Haraiya they are comparatively scarce, as indeed are all castes of Muhammadans. The name of Sheikh has been frequently adopted by Musalman converts, and is borne by a great number of the lower classes; but the old subdivisions are retained, although a large proportion of the Sheikhs are returned as unspecified. As is the case throughout the provinces generally, the Siddiqis are the most numerous with 15,934 representatives, and nearly half of them reside in the Bansi tahsil. They are closely followed by Qurreshis with 15,363. These predominate in all tahsils except Bansi and are strongest in Khalilabad. The others are of no great importance. There were 1,503 Ansaris, two-thirds of whom reside in Bansi; 1,052 Usmanis, chiefly in Domariaganj; 997 Faruqis, distributed between the Bansi, Domariaganj and Khalilabad tahsils; 543 Bani Israils, almost Sheikhs.

all of whom belong to Domariaganj; and 482 Abbasis, chiefly in Bansi.

Julahas. In the second place come the Julahas or weavers, numbering 43,399 souls or 14·48 per cent. of the Musalmans. More than one-third belong to Khalilabad and one-fourth to Bansi; but they are found everywhere, and are either engaged in their ancestral occupation or else have betaken themselves to agriculture; in the latter capacity they are hard-working and careful cultivators, usually paying a high rent. Closely allied to them are the Behnas or Dhunas, cotton-carders by occupation. These numbered 28,168 persons or ·4 per cent. of the Musalmans, and are found in all tahsils, notably Basti and Khalilabad.

Pathans. There were 34,384 Pathans, constituting 11·47 per cent. of the Musalman community, and fairly evenly distributed throughout the district. There are no important families of this class in Basti, but they own an appreciable amount of land. Comparatively few of them belong to any of the better known subdivisions; but there were 5,485 Kakars, a larger number than in any other district of the provinces. They mainly reside in the northern tahsils, and are connected with the well-known colony of Kakars in the Utraula tahsil of Gonda. Other subdivisions included 3,745 Lodis, mainly in Bansi; 954 Ghoris, in the same tahsil; and 1,647 Yusufzais. There is a small colony of Bangash Pathans in Haraiya, while of the more uncommon subdivisions the Dhilawara is well represented in this district.

Rajputs. The number of converted Rajputs is distinctly large, aggregating 34,189 or 11·41 per cent. of the Musalmans—a figure which is only exceeded in Meerut and Gonda. They are the descendants of persons who embraced Islam at a comparatively early date, and the great majority of them are to be found in the Domariaganj and Khalilabad tahsils. They are mainly drawn from the lower clans of Rajputs, such as the Chauhans, 9,936, and the Bais, 7,721; there were also 6,530 Panwars, 2,024 Bisens, and smaller numbers of Gautams, Sombansis, Janwars, Surajbansis, Chandels, Tomars and others.

Other castes. The other Musalman castes with over 10,000 members apiece were Faqirs, 24,227, and Hajjams or Nais, 14,013. Both of these figures are remarkably high and are exceeded in no other

district of the provinces. Nearly half the Faqirs belong to the Domariaganj tahsil, while the Nais are more evenly distributed. Darzis, Nau-Muslims, Telis, Churihars and Saiyids each occur in numbers exceeding 5,000, that of the Nau-Muslims or recent converts being alone remarkable. The Saiyids hold no important position in this district; they belong to many different subdivisions, the chief being Rizwis, Husainis, and Jafaris. The first are practically comfined to Domariaganj, and the Jafaris to Basti; while in the former tahsil there is a small colony of Kazimi Saiyids, who are not found elsewhere in the Gorakhpur division. The following castes have more than 2,000 representatives: Nats, Gaddis, Kunjras, Bhats, Qassabs, Dafalis, Bhangis and Mughals. The Nats, though found in almost every part of the provinces, and especially in the adjoining districts of Gorakhpur and Gonda, are more numerous in Basti than elsewhere, while the next three castes also occur in unusual strength. The Mughals, who are quite unimportant, reside mainly in the Bansi tahsil. A few of minor castes may be mentioned as being found in greater numbers than in other districts. Such are Mochis or cobblers, chiefly in the Basti and Khalilabad tahsils; Goriyas, a fishing and cultivating caste resembling Mallahs; Bahelias or hunters, in Domariaganj alone; and Berias, a criminal tribe, in Bansi. Other castes of comparative rarity are Pankhias, a race who are only found in lowlying riverain tracts, and are here confined to Bansi; Iraqis or Musalman Kalwars; and Kingarias, a wandering tribe of singers and dancers who belong to the eastern districts.

Occupations.

As already mentioned, the population of Basti is almost exclusively rural, and consequently it is but natural to find that the agricultural body far outnumbers all other communities. At the last census the people were divided into eight classes according to occupations, and this arrangement shows clearly the principal means of subsistence; but it is not wholly accurate, inasmuch as it leaves out of account subsidiary occupations, of which agriculture is the chief. On this classification 65·8 per cent. of the people were agriculturists, the figures including dependents in each case; but in addition to these a very considerable number were engaged in agriculture as a secondary means of subsistence, the total coming

under this head being over 38,000, figure which included most of those engaged in pasture and the care of animals, who by themselves contributed a further ·55 per cent. None the less, it is somewhat curious that the agricultural population in Basti should be little more than the general average for the provinces, and markedly less than in the province of Oudh. The other occupations afford no explanation of this phenomenon, although the industrial population is somewhat unexpectedly large, amounting to 13·14 per cent. This wide class includes all those engaged in the manufacture and supply of material substances, the chief place being taken by food and drink, which accounts for 32 per cent. of the whole number; followed by textile fabrics with 23 per cent., works in wood, cane, and the like with 13·5 per cent., metals with 12, and earthenware and cognate crafts with 11 per cent. Of the remaining principal classes, general labour, other than agricultural, is the most important, as affording support to 9·56 per cent. of the population; after which comes 6·73 per cent. engaged in personal and domestic service. Commerce, transport and storage make up 1·36 per cent., of which ·5 per cent. represents the actual commercial population —a proportion which is well below the provincial average, and is smaller than in any of the adjoining districts. Similarly the professional community, with ·54 per cent., is very small, and no other district exhibits a lower figure. The rest comprises the extensive class which is described under the head of administration, and includes all those in Government employ, aggregating ·98 per cent.; and those who have no occupation, 1·22 per cent., the majority of the latter being beggars, who are extremely numerous in every tahsil of the district.

Language.

The common tongue of the people is that known as Bihari, a language that is directly descended from the Prakrit of the old Hindu kingdom of Magadha. This has three or four distinct forms or dialects, but in this district, as in Gorakhpur, the only variety is Bhojpuri. The latter again has been further subdivided according to locality, and the type in use in Basti is that described as the northern standard of Bhojpuri or Sarwaria. This is spoken by all classes of the population, although the more educated frequently employ Urdu or Hindustani as the language of polite speech. The returns of the last census show that 1,838,163

persons, or 99·59 per cent. of the total population gave Bihari as the language of their daily life; while 7,903 spoke Hindustani, 34 Bengali, 17 the Marwari form of Rajasthani, 14 Panjabi and 18 English. The Sarwaria dialect does not apparently lend itself to literature, and the people of Basti are veritable Bœotians; the district has produced no authors of any repute whatever, and at the present time does not even boast a newspaper.

Proprietary tenures.

The proprietary tenures found in this district are for the most part similar to those which prevail throughout the United Provinces, but they present some peculiar features. At the present time, out of a total of 7,628 villages, 786 are held in single and 1,451 in joint *zamindari* tenure, comprising about one-sixth of the whole area, 21 in perfect *pattidari*, 5,223 in imperfect *pattidari*, and ten are *bhaiyachara*. Of the remainder, 134 are revenue-free, and three, in pargana Basti East, are the property of Government. Since the last settlement there has been agreat change in the mutual relation of these different forms, and thirty years ago the position showed a still greater contrast to the present state of affairs. In 1876 there were 2,172 *zamindari* villages, 2,595 perfect *pattidari* and 2,776 imperfect *pattidari mauzas*. Though the last form of tenure is the most common not only in every tahsil but even in every pargana, it would be a mistake to infer that common ownership and united village communities are a feature of the district. As a matter of fact, the exact opposite is the case, as the division of the village lands is but technically imperfect. In the great majority of the villages coming under this head the common lands consist merely of the village site, the roads, and perhaps a plot of waste or rent-free lands. But for all practical purposes the separation of ownership is complete, and each village contains a number of petty proprietors, whose main object is to be as independent of the rest as possible. The minute subdivision of property that has resulted from this tendency is such that the average area belonging to a separate proprietary holding is less than 15 acres for the whole district, while in the Haraiya and Basti tahsils it is under ten acres. The figure is higher in the more recently-settled tracts of Domariaganj and Bansi, amounting to 31·2 acres in the former and 24 acres in the latter. There are on an average 16 such holdings in each village. Added to this, the average size of

tenants' holdings and of each field is equally minute, the former being about two acres, while generally three fields go to the acre. Under such circumstances the difficulty of maintaining correct village records is obvious, and the revenue system is strained to the uttermost. The collection of revenue also presents great obstacles, as each co-sharer wishes to pay in his own petty quota separately and declines to be represented by a *lambardar*.

Birt.

In addition to the ordinary forms of land tenures there are others which are not usual in the province of Agra, but which are very common in the adjoining districts of Oudh, and especially Gonda. Foremost among these is the subordinate tenure known as *birt*, in which the *zamindars* pay a *malikana* of 10 per cent. to the superior proprietor in addition to the land revenue. The *malikana* is collected together with the Government demand and afterwards paid to the persons entitled to receive it; these are frequently represented by a village community, and the fractional shares paid to each member are often ridiculously small. But originally *birts* were derived from grants made by a single person, generally a Raja. Such grants are of several kinds. In former days the local Raja had at his disposal the waste lands of the pargana, as well as the domains of his dispossessed predecessors and their adherents. From these he assigned certain portions to the cadet branches of the family, which became endowed with separate estates in each succeeding generation. These grants sometimes conveyed full proprietary right, as was usually the case with the younger members of the ruling family, such as the Babus of Un, Bakhira, Mehndawal and elsewhere, who received whole tappas for maintenance; and the tenure in this case was known as *jewan birt*, which, being in perpetuity, has come to be regarded under certain condition as actual *zamindari*, as the only claim on the grantee was that of military service.* So, too, was the *marwat birt*, a grant made to the family of a dependant slain while fighting for the Raja. Of a similar nature were the *shankalps* given to Brahmans, in the form of a religious endowment, and the *murchabandi birts*, which are peculiar to the north of this district. The latter were grants of land made to military colonies of Rajputs, who were settled on the border in order to protect the pargana against invasion; in this way the Haras of Biskohar and Mehnani and the Babus

of Chilia obtained their estates. Land was at first of little value and rights in large tracts were given away for a nominal consideration, cr for no consideration at all; the Bansi Raja, for instance, made over the entire tappas of Dhebarua and Khajahni to the Kurmi Chaudhris of Dhekahri. But the common and ordinary from of *birt* merely conferred a limited and subordinate right. The *birtia* had the entire control of the village, but he was only allowed to retain a definite proportion of the profits, usually one-tenth or one-fourth, und was obliged to hand over the rest to the superior proprietor. If the Raja resumed the grant, he allowed the *birtia* to retain one-tenth or one-fourth of the land, as the case might be. Similar to this was the so-called *mukaddam birt*, in which the grantee was merely a managing lessee, who was allowed to retain a fixed proportion of the land for his own advantage. Since the settlement of 1839, however, the *birtias* have been treated as *zamindars*, and the superior proprietors only gain the benefit of a *malikana* allowance in a comparatively small number of cases. The present number of *birt* villages is 1,036 though the tenure is in many instances confined to a part only of the village lands: the majority of them belong to the Basti and Haraiya tahsils. In some instances the superior proprietor is the state, owing to the attainder of the former owners; the *malikana* once paid to the Rajas of Gonda and Nagar is now credited to Government.

Arazi.

Another peculiar form of tenure is that known as *arazi*, which refers to specific plots in a village. The *arazidar* may sometimes hold a share in the village as well; but as regards his *arazi* he is outside the village community and his rights are limited to the ownership of his particular plot. Such holdings consist in some cases of a few fields only, but occasionally they are of fair size, and a few villages are made up entirely of *arazis*. The right sometimes originated in a grant and sometimes in a sale; while the right conveyed was either full or partial, the tenure in the latter case being known as *arazi birt*. In certain instances these plots were given to *birtias* whose holdings had been resumed by the superior proprietor. At the last settlement there were 3,425 such plots, chiefly in the southern parganas.

Proprietary castes.

Among the many and various castes that constitute the proprietary body in this district the first place is taken by Brahmans,

who own over one-third of the entire area and predominate in every tahsil except Haraiya. Following closely upon them come Rajputs, who occupy the foremost position in the Haraiya tahsil and are second to the Brahmans in every other subdivision; these two castes together holding 64 per cent. of the entire district. The Rajput proprietors belong to many different clans, the chief being Sarnets, Surajbansis, Kalhans, Gautams, Bisens and Solankhis. After these, but at a long interval, come Musalmans of various descriptions, owning eight per cent. of the district, their largest possessions being in the Bansi and Domariaganj tahsils. Then follow Kayasths with seven per cent.; the European grantees with 4·6 per cent, chiefly in the Bansi tahsil; Bhuinhars with four per cent., their largest estates being in Khalilabad; Banias with three per cent., Kurmis with two per cent. and Goshains with 1·4 per cent., the last two being much more prominent in Domariaganj than elsewhere. No other caste possesses any large holdings, though mention may be made of the Ahirs, Khattris, Bairagis, Kalwars, Bhats, and Banjaras, all of whom own over 3,000 acres. Since the introduction of the British rule there has been no great change in the relative position of the different castes in this respect, with the exception of the alterations effected by the confiscation of estates for rebellion during the mutiny. Land does not change hands rapidly, nor have the Banias obtained any great hold on the district. When transfers of property occur, as old families decay and new ones take their place, the latter belong, for the most part, to the same castes and classes as the original proprietors. The territorial distribution of the various Rajput clans follows the arrangement of former days, when every pargana had its own Raja, with the exception of the forest tract of Binayakpur.

Raja of Bansi.

The chief proprietor of the district is the Raja of Bansi, who belongs to a clan known as Sarnet. Their origin has been the subject of much dispute, conflicting traditions deriving them from a Nikumbh, a Dikhit and a Surajbansi stock. Their own story alleges that they were Surajbansis and in former days resided at Srinagar near Lahore. The first of the race who is said to have come to these parts was Rup Narayan, who, according to the tradition, led an expedition against the Tharus of

Gorakhpur, and founded a large estate which passed to his descendants. One of these, named Chandra Sen, incurred the displeasure of the Dehli emperor, and was compelled to retire to his ancestral home in Srinagar. He was subsequently sent against the Domkatars of Domangarh or Gorakhpur, and having overcome them by stratagem, married a daughter of the Bisen Raja of Majhauli and acquired a large tract of territory. Whatever historical truth may be in this narrative, an undoubted difficulty presents itself with regard to the date. There is no chronology of the Bansi Rajas till the days of Bansdeo Singh, who died in 1484, and this man was in the 29th, or according to another account, the 34th generation from Chandra Sen, which would place the advent of the Sarnets at far too early a period; and it seems probable that they did not establish themselves in Gorakhpur till at least the 13th century. Chandra Sen had four sons, of whom the eldest, Jagdhar Singh, was killed in the fight at Domangarh; Jai Singh, the second, founded the property held till the mutiny by the Rajas of Satasi; Bijai Singh, the third, became Raja of Maghar; and Randhir Singh, the youngest, obtained Unaula. Nothing is known of the descendants of Bijai Singh for many generations. They appear to have held the whole pargana of Maghar, but we possess nothing beyond a list of names till the days of Raja Rai Singh, who died childless and adopted Sahar Singh or Hati Singh, a son of the Unaula Raja. This man was succeeded in turn by each of his four sons, of whom the youngest was Bansdeo Singh. This Raja appears to have been driven out of Maghar by the Musalmans, who for some time maintained a garrison there, and to have migrated to the banks of the Rapti, where he built the town of Bansi. At his death the estate was seized by a Shukul Brahman of Shergarh, but his widow fled to her father, the Chauhan Raja of Mainpuri, and at that place gave birth to a posthumous son, Ratan Sen Singh. The latter subsequently returned to Basti, where, with the aid of the Raja of Kathela, he overthrew the usurper and recovered most of the old estates. He was succeeded by his son, Raja Tej Singh, who was followed in 1560 by Sangram Singh. The latter was succeeded in turn by his two sons, Sakat Singh and Ram Partab Singh, who made over

the management during his lifetime to his son, Gajendra Singh, who held Bansi till 1678. Then came Raja Ram Singh, who appears to have been a prominent personage; he annexed the territory of the Kathela Raja, and in 1687 followed this up by seizing the whole of Rasulpur Ghaus from the Kalhans Raja, Kesri Singh. Subsequently Ram Singh had to defend himself against the Banjaras of the north, and in the fighting that ensued his elder son, Bhagwant Singh, lost his life. Raja Ram Singh was succeeded in 1716 by his younger son, Madho Singh; but the latter's right was contested by Tej Singh, the son of Bhagwant. Eventually a compromise was effected, on the understanding that the nephew should succeed, and this took place in 1732. Raja Tej Singh died in 1743, leaving three sons, of whom the eldest was Ranjit Singh. This Raja quarrelled with his brother, Daljit Singh, who was compelled to fly for refuge to the Raja of Sheorajpur in Cawnpore. Here he gained the favour of Shuja-ud-daula, and with his support again attacked his brother; a battle ensued at Panghata-ghat, six miles east of Bansi, in 1748 and both the brothers lost their lives. In consequence of this, Bahadur Singh and Sarabjit Singh, the infant sons of Ranjit and Daljit respectively, were set up as joint Rajas of Bansi, the latter residing at Narkatha. Bahadur Singh died in 1777 without issue and his brother, Jagat Singh, attempted to seize his share; but Sarabjit Singh obtained the aid of Raja of Butwal and slew the claimant in open fight, thus becoming the sole owner of the estate. The property was, however, much diminished by this time, owing to the numerous grants of *birts* to relatives and dependents. The largest of these was known as the Bakhira *ilaqa*, and was given to an illegitimate son, whose descendant lost the whole for his rebellion in 1858.

Raja Sarabjit Singh died without legitimate issue in 1808, and for five years Bansi was managed by his widow, Rani Ranjit Kunwar. She adopted Sri Prakash Singh, a son of Raja Harihar Sarfaraz Singh of Unaula. He was a man of amiable disposition, but of no capacity as a manager, and during his time a large portion of the estate was settled with others, while the *birtias* were recognised as proprietors, on the sole condition of paying a *malikana* to the Raja. He died in 1840 and was

succeeded by his elder son, Raja Mahipat Singh, though the property was managed by the younger son, Mahendra Singh. During the mutiny both brothers remained conspicuously loyal, maintaining order in their estates, giving shelter to the fugitives from Balrampur and elsewhere, and preserving the Government treasure in the Bansi tahsil. Raja Mahipat Singh was rewarded with the confiscated property of the rebel Raja of Nagar, and Mahendra Singh, who succeeded in 1863, was made a Companion of the Star of India at the Agra *darbar*. He died in 1868, leaving a son, Raja Ram Singh, the present owner of the property. The title was withdrawn on the ground of misconduct in 1886, but was restored ten years later. The Raja has now retired from public life and is generally represented by his son and heir, Lal Ratan Sen Singh. The estate is now in a flourishing condition, and comprises 76,338 acres in Bansi, 16,435 acres in Rasulpur, and 12,110 acres in Nagar, Basti and Maghar, as well as a number of villages in the Gorakhpur district. The revenue demand in Basti is Rs. 121,685. The *nankar* lands of the Raja are revenue-free and comprise 86 villages, of which 25 are in his own possession, while of the rest, which is sub-settled, he receives the revenue from the under-proprietors.

Raja of Mahuli.

The Raja of Mahuli or Mahson is the head of the Surajbansi Rajputs in this district. As in the case of the Sarnets, their early history is obscure, but it does not appear that their establishment in Basti is of any great antiquity, and probably does not date beyond the 15th century. There is a common tradition that the Surajbansis came from Kumaun, and the same statement is alleged with regard to the members of the clan who settled at Pura in Fyzabad, and who are said to be connected with the Raja of Haraha in Bara Banki district. The ancestor of the Pura family was one Lalji Sah, while the Surajbansis of Basti claim descent from two brothers named Alakh Deo and Tilak Deo, and these persons may very possibly have been connected. The two brothers, according to the tradition, acquired their property in Mahuli from a Rajbhar chieftain, to whom legend assigns the name of Kaulbil. In the course of time they enlarged their estates, which became divided up among several members of the family. The head of the house has always borne the title of Pal,

and this distinction is said to have been conferred by the Dehli emperor, though no historical proof can be found for this assertion. Raja Man Pal, seventh in descent from Alakh Deo, had three sons of whom the eldest, Parasram Pal, obtained Mahuli; the second, Jagat Bali Pal, founded the Jaswal estate; and the third, Sansar Pal, that of Siktar. Two generations later, Karan Pal, the younger brother of Raja Mardan Pal, obtained the large property still known as Hariharpur, which now consists of 40 villages, paying a revenue of Rs. 11,573. Raja Mardan Pal was succeeded by his son, Pirthi Pal, whose younger son, Durjan Pal, founded the Silehra estate. Similarly Jorawar Pal, the second son of Raja Mani Pal, obtained Bhanpur, which now consists of 70 villages in Mahuli West, assessed at Rs. 8,827 and held by Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur. At the time of the cession, Mahuli was owned by Raja Bakhtawar Pal, who was succeeded by Raja Shamsher Bahadur Pal, and then by the latter's son, Raja Mardan Pal. This man was followed by Raja Bhawani Ghulam Pal, who died in 1892, leaving two sons by his first wife, of whom the elder is the present Raja Narendra Bahadur Pal, while the younger, Lal Raghurendra Bahadur Pal, died without issue; and one by his second wife, Mangal Prasad Pal, who owns the Budwal estate of 20 villages assessed at Rs. 8,276. Owing to the constant subdivision of the property, the portion held by the Raja is now but a fraction of the ancestral domains; it consists at present of 65 villages in this district paying a revenue of Rs. 20,135, and a few villages in Fyzabad. The whole is very much less than the area owned by the representatives of the younger branches, most of whom are on bad terms with one another and mutually endeavour to ignore each other's existence.

Surajbansis of Amorha.

Another family of the Surajbansis appears to have come from Fyzabad at a somewhat later date and to have seized the neighbouring pargana of Amorha. Their leader was Kanh Deo, who set himself to expel the Kayasth *zamindars* of that tract. In this he was only partially successful, but his son, Kans Narayan, obtained the eastern half of the pargana from the Kayasth Raja, while his successors completed the conquest. The last Raja of Amorha was Jang Bahadur Singh, who died in 1855, leaving a widow, Rani Jagatraj Kunwar. The latter was implicated in

the mutiny, with the result that the title and estates were forfeited and bestowed on the Rani of Basti. Jagatraj Kunwar died childless, and the senior branch of the family thus became extinct; but a large number of Surajbansis still hold land in Amorha, their most important property being that of Jitipur, which is in a fairly flourishing condition, with a revenue demand of Rs. 7,161. The representatives of the old Kayasth Rajas still exist in reduced circumstances in the villages of Sikandarpur and Chauri.

Another clan of Rajputs among the landholders of this district is that of the Kalhans. Their early history more properly belongs to Gonda, and an account of them will be found in the volume on that district.* For a long time the headquarters of the clan was at Khurasa in pargana Gonda, the last Raja being Achal Singh, the traditional date of whose death is 1544. It is not possible to determine the limits of the kingdom over which Achal Singh held sway, but it appears certain that it extended up to Basti and that he gave a considerable tract of territory on his eastern borders to his brother or cousin, Pirthi Deo Singh, from whom are decended the Rajas of Basti. Achal Singh's son became Raja of Rasulpur Ghaus and Babhnipair, and his successors for several generations held a large tract of land in those districts till they were dispossessed after the murder of Kesri Singh by Raja Ram Singh of Bansi. Kesri Singh left an infant son, named Chhattar Pal, who became Raja of Babhnipair, while Anup Singh, the brother of Kesri Singh, became subject to the Raja of Bansi, and his descendants are still to be found in Chaukhara, Shahpur and Awainia. The house of Basti, however, remained undisturbed, although the Rajas do not appear to have occupied a position of great prominence. At the time when Saadat Khan became Nawab Wazir of Oudh the estate was held by Raja Jai Singh, who lived to a great age and was succeeded by his grandson, Pirthipal Singh. The latter's son, Raja Jograj Singh, held Basti when the district was ceded to the British. He was followed by Raja Sheo Bakhsh Singh, and then by Raja Indra Daman Singh. The latter died young, and the property was managed on behalf of his infant son by his widow, who remained loyal during the mutiny and was rewarded with the

Raja of Basti.

* Gazetteer of Gonda, pp. 89 and 139.

large confiscated estate of Amorha. Her son, Raja Mahesh Sitla Bakhsh Singh, dissipated the property through his unbridled extravagance. When he became Raja he inherited 233 villages as ancestral property, in addition to the 114 villages bestowed on the family by the British Government. Almost the whole was brought to sale in order to liquidate the debts that had accrued, but fortunately his wife was able to buy in a considerable number of villages. The Raja died in 1890, leaving two sons, of whom the elder is the present Raja Pateswari Partab Narayan Singh. The property, reduced to 26 villages only, was left by the Rani's will to the wife of the present Raja and the son of the Raja's brother. On their behalf it has been put under the management of the Court of Wards and the Raja himself is the manager. The debt amounts to over Rs. 80,000, but it is hoped to liquidate the whole within twelve years. In the meantime the Raja has recovered possession of some villages which were formerly held by younger branches of the family, having succeeded in proving that according to custom such property should, in the absence of direct heirs, revert to the head of the family. The Raja is an honorary magistrate of the second class for the greater part of the Basti tahsil.

Other Kalhans.

The Chaukhara estate referred to above, is still held by the Kalhans and is in a prosperous condition. It consists of 20 villages in pargana Bansi West, assessed at Rs. 6,211 and owned by several sharers, of whom the most prominent is Babu Naubat Singh. Another member of the same family, Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar, owns a valuable estate of 49 villages in pargana Bansi East, paying a revenue of Rs. 17,287. The owner is an enterprising and successful manager, having, as already mentioned, supplied his villages with a system of irrigation similar to that found in the European grants, and has built the bazar of Shohratganj, which is fast becoming the most important centre of the Nepal trade in the district.

Gautam estates.

The Gautams, who formerly held the Nagar pargana, have now lost the greater part of their ancestral estates. The family is said to have been founded by one Jagdeo, who came apparently from Argal in Fatehpur and obtained 12 villages in this district as his wife's dowry, the lady being presumably

of the Bisen clan. At that time Nagar was in the possession of a Domkatar, called Rahila, whose name seems to be preserved in that of the old pargana known as Rihlapara. He was expelled by Gautams, who built the fort of Nagar on the banks of the Chando Tal. Jagdeo's grandson, Raja Bhagwant Rao, was slain by an Afghan governor; but his son or grandson, Chande Rao, expelled the usurper and recovered his estate. Five generations later came Raja Gajpati Rao, who moved his headquarters to Ganeshpur; the descendants of his brothers are still to be found at Penda, Bhainsi, and a few villages of the Basti and Haraiya tahsils. It was apparently customary among the Gautams to divide the lands of the family between all the brothers in each generation, and thus we find that of Gajpati's younger sons, four obtained the Pipra *taluka* of 60 villages, and four others received that of Ganeshpur, containing 54 villages. Much of the Pipra estate still remains, although it has been subjected to constant subdivision; some of the Gautams rebelled in 1857, and 12 villages were confiscated and bestowed on Mr. W. Cooke. Babu Ram Bakhsh Singh of Pipra still holds property paying Rs. 6,000 revenue in Basti East. The descendants of the Ganeshpur Gautams still reside in various parts of pargana Nagar, but the estate was sold soon after the introduction of the British rule, being purchased by Mrs. Fidden; by her it was sold to Government and was subsequently given on a permanent settlement to certain Afghans who had been in the service of Amir Khan Pindari. Their descendants still reside at Ganeshpur; they are in a flourishing condition and have made large additions to their property by purchase.

Raja Gajpati Singh of Nagar was succeeded by his eldest son, Harbans Singh, who in turn gave 60 villages to his younger son; while five generations later, in the days of Raja Ambar Singh, 60 more were either given away or sold for arrears of revenue, although the Raja seized an equal number from his kinsmen. Ambar Singh's grandson died without issue and the title passed to the head of a collateral branch. In 1801 Raja Ram Parkash Singh held Nagar, which then consisted of 114 villages, in addition to 62 others from which he received a *malikana*. His grandson, Raja Jai Partab Singh, met his

death in an affray with the proprietors of Dengrapur, and was succeeded by his brother, Udai Partab Singh. The latter lost his title and estates for rebellion during the mutiny, and committed suicide while under trial. He left a son, Bishnath Singh, whose son, Lal Rupendra Narayan Singh, is still recognised as the head of the clan and holds five of the ancestral villages on a long lease from the Raja of Bansi.

Other landholders.

Among the other leading landholders of the district are several who derive their possessions from grants made to relatives or dependents of the Rajas of Bansi. Of the former the chief are the Babus of Rudhauli, who together own 159 villages in pargana Maghar West, with a revenue demand of Rs. 19,102. The Babus of Mehndawal have a similar origin, and hold 64 villages in Maghar East, assessed at Rs. 12,368. Of the dependents of the Rajas perhaps the most prominent are the Tiwari Brahmans of Chhitia, a family which constantly furnished Diwans to the house of Bansi. They acquired a considerable grant of land from Raja Sarabjit Singh, and though they have suffered from internal feuds, they still retain 52 villages in pargana Bansi East, assessed at Rs. 10,087. The Kurmi Chaudhris of Dhekahri obtained a grant of the rice tappas of Dhebarua and Khajahni from the same Raja, and their present representatives, Chaudhri Ram Datt and Chaudhri Ram Harak, together hold 13,583 acres paying a revenue of Rs. 12,901. Few other estates deserve any special mention. Pandit Deokali Prasad of Gadawar in the Domariaganj tahsil owns a property of 34 villages in Rasulpur assessed at Rs. 6,959, and is one of the most influential landlords of the district. His possessions include a grant made to his ancestor Sheo Prasad in 1777 by the Nawab Wazir Asaf-ud-daula, and the *sanad* is still preserved by the family. Another Pande, Babu Har Narayan of Jagdispur, owns 51 villages in pargana Amorha, assessed at Rs. 8,595; and Jagrup Datt of Kalyanpur owns 19 villages, paying a revenue of Rs. 2,012, in the same pargana. Both of these estates are derived from grants made on account of loyal service rendered during the mutiny and formed part of the old Surajbansi estate. Pandit Sri Nawaz Pande of Narharia is the owner of 92 villages paying a revenue of Rs. 10,902, mostly in the Basti tahsil. He was

formerly in the service of the Raja of Basti, and has acquired the bulk of his property by money-lending, and especially by successful speculations during the famine of 1897. Of the Kayasths the chief are those of Deipar in Rasulpur, of Pipari in Bansi East, of Ridhaura in Amorha, and the Chaudhris of Sawapar in Mahuli East. Among Bhuinhar landholders mention may be made of the *zamindars* of Baur Bias, Koraiya and Pindari in pargana Bansi East. The Maharaja of Balrampur in Gonda may be added to the list of the Basti title-holders, as he owns 2,721 acres in Bansi West. Reference will also be made to the less important proprietors in the various pargana articles.

European proprietors.

Apart from the old landed aristocracy of the country and the smaller *zamindars* who have acquired their estates under the protection of the Rajas or by other means, there is another and very important class of proprietors, who figure prominently in Basti, as in the adjoining district of Gorakhpur. These are the European grantees, who at the last settlement held 60,793 acres in the Bansi tahsil, 11,017 acres in Basti, and 9,631 acres in the other subdivisions. The origin of these estates dates from the first half of the nineteenth century, when Government, having large tracts of land lying uncultivated in the Gorakhpur district, which at that time included Basti, determined to lease them out for a long term on progressive rentals to any persons who would undertake the task of reclamation on stated terms. The land in question was naturally of an inferior quality, as the best portions were already under cultivation, and was composed of grass plains, more or less liable to inundation, scrub jungle, and a small area of forest. Between 1832 and 1840 no less than 618,547 acres were given out in this manner, leases being granted as a rule for fifty years, on the expiry of which regular *zamindari* engagements were to be taken. The area which lay in the present district of Basti cannot be exactly determined, but it appears to have been about 300,000 acres. In 1846, however, Mr. Tucker, collector of Gorakhpur, made an investigation to see how far the terms of the agreements had been observed; with the result that 280,179 acres were resumed and restored to the original settlers. Such resumed plots were of no great value, as is evident from the fact that even to the present day the estates are surrounded by

large areas of scrub and grass jungle which are useless even for pasturage. To this extent the experiment had failed, but a few of the grantees determined to carry through the work if possible. There are now 116 of these grants in Basti, but the great majority were either made over originally to natives, or have been subsequently acquired by them. Such was Sohas, covering 3,079 acres in the tappa of the same name, given to Mannu Lal in 1839; and the Kathela grant of 3,156 acres in tappa Barikpar, given to Mr. J. H. Forbes in 1840, and afterwards developed by Mr. C. Wallace, but now in native hands, having been sold to Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar. All the grants have been assessed to full revenue, the last having been brought under settlement in 1905.

Birdpur.

The European estates call for more detailed mention. The chief is Birdpur in tappa Ghaus, originally given in 1832 to Mr. J. J. Maclachlan, of the firm of Alexander & Co. in Calcutta, for fifty years, the term to expire in 1882. The firm failed, and in March 1834 the property was sold to Messrs. W. F. Gibbon and J. Cock for Rs. 10,700. In 1840 the grant was again conferred by a fresh warrant on Messrs. Gibbon and Cock, with whom were associated Messrs. H. and J. P. Gibbon, together with additions which brought it up to 29,316 acres. The whole tract then consisted of swamp and jungle; there were few inhabitants, and consequently cultivators were imported from Chutia Nagpur and Azamgarh for growing and manufacturing indigo. This attempt proved unprofitable and was abandoned: so, too, were sugarcane cultivation, horse-breeding, and the manufacture of lac, each experiment serving merely to increase the debt. In 1848, Mr. Hugh Gibbon, the managing proprietor who had resided continuously on the estate, died from exposure and hard work in the unhealthy climate, and for nearly a year his widow carried on the management. Mr. W. Peppe then came as manager, and subsequently married Mrs. Gibbon. With his arrival matters rapidly improved. He discontinued the cultivation of indigo, and gave his attention to rice, the staple product of the surrounding country. For this purpose he required many more cultivators, and these were obtained from the neighbouring parts of Oudh, from which emigrants came in great numbers, only too glad to be able to escape from the misrule of that province. Mr. Peppe

made over the land to the settlers on easy terms, with the result that the jungle soon disappeared, villages sprang up, and most of the land was brought under the plough. The destruction of the forest, consisting of valuable *sal*, *asna* and other species, though regrettable in itself, was one of the conditions of the grant, and the land so cleared proved admirably adapted for the growth of *jarhan* rice. The only difficulty was the shortage of water in dry years, and in order to obviate this danger the admirable system of canals, described in Chapter II, was devised and carried out by Mr. Peppe and his successor, Mr. W. C. Peppe, who joined the estate in 1875. Birdpur is now managed by Mr. F. H. Warren, the proprietors being Messrs. W. C. Peppe and G. T. Peppe, and Mrs. Larpent, children of Mr. W. Peppe; the widow of Mr. W. F. Gibbon; and Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Jones, children of Mr. Hugh Gibbon. At the present time the estate consists of fourteen divisions with 252 villages and hamlets, the cultivated area being 21,978 acres and the revenue demand Rs. 36,277.

The Dulha grant of 3,619 acres in pargana Binayakpur was given in 1840 to Messrs. W. F. and H. Gibbon. On the death of the latter, Mr. W. Gibbon became the sole proprietor, and brought the estate into a flourishing condition, by means of irrigation works on a small scale and by careful management. The grant was held free of revenue for the first three years, and little could be done beyond clearing the dense jungle, labour being imported for this purpose from Jaunpur. Mr. W. F. Gibbon still owns the property, with the exception of a fourth share held by Mr. W. C. Peppe; both reside in England, and the grant is managed on their behalf by Mr. D. Ricketts. The area has been increased by purchase of neighbouring villages, and now aggregates 5,218 acres, assessed at Rs. 6,912. In making the settlement the various improvements were taken into account, in the shape of protective embankments, wells and tanks; a bazar has been established near Kakrahwa on the Nepal fontier, and several roads and bridges have been constructed. The land is cultivated for the most part under a system of seven-year leases given to tenants and *thekadars*. **Dulha.**

The Neora grant of 11,451 acres in tappa Ghaus was given in 1834 to Mr. J. Dickens and Mr. J. H. Bridgman, of whom the **Neora.**

latter subsequently became the sole proprietor. It was then a *sal* forest, and the work of clearing proved very slow and costly; it is said to have been retarded by the mutiny and was not completed till 1865, when the revenue was Rs. 3,962, Mr. Bridgman spent large sums in improving the estate, in the shape of embankments along the Tilar, an irrigation reservoir with masonry gates, several roads and bridges, a number of wells for both drinking purposes and irrigation, and the erection of a bazar at Mohana for the convenience of the tenantry. This expenditure was considered a reason for a light assessment at the last settlement, the demand being Rs. 12,100 for the total area of 10,340 acres. The grant is divided into eleven villages, and is entrusted to a European manager, Mr. Ricketts, who also has charge of Dulha and Alidapur. Mr. Bridgman died in 1892, and the property passed for his lifetime to his son, Mr. F. Bridgman, who died in 1906. It then devolved to Mr. J. Bridgman's grandson, Mr. W. T. Waite, on whose behalf it is controlled for the time being by the Court of Wards.

Alidapur. The Alidapur estate was first given to a Dane named Oelsen, who established an indigo factory at Gaura Alidapur and a cattle market at Bajha on the Nepal frontier, for some years known as Oelsenganj. He afterwards sold the grant to Mr. J. H. Bridgman, who rapidly improved the property by liberal expenditure. His reservoir at Bajha was the first of the irrigation works to be constructed on these estates and the success of the canal system led to the achievements of Mr. Peppe in Birdpur. In 1881 Alidapur was sold, Mr. W. F. Gibbon purchasing a two-sevenths share, which has since passed to his widow, while the rest is held in equal shares by Mr. W. C. Peppe, Mr. G. T. Peppe and Mr. Larpent, the heirs of the late Mr. W. Peppe of Birdpur. The original grant was 9,852 acres, to which additions have been made, bringing up the area to 9,958 acres, divided into twelve villages and paying a revenue of Rs. 10,447.

Sarauli. Mr. Bridgman also held the smaller grant of Sarauli in tappa Untapar, of 5,189 acres, paying a revenue of Rs. 4,220. It is now in the possession of his son-in-law, Mr. J. Holdsworth, and is managed together with the rest of the Lehra estate in Gorakhpur.

The large property in the Basti and Haraiya tahsils known as the Cooke grant originated in 1837, when waste land to the extent of 13,023 acres was given by Government to Mr. Claude Hamilton and Mr. Andrew Sym. In 1846 it was sold by them to Mr. William Cooke, who made large additions to the original eleven plots in the Basti pargana. In 1860 he obtained twelve villages with an area of 4,002 acres, the confiscated property of the Gautams of Pipra, which was bestowed on Mr. Cooke in recognition of the services he had rendered during the mutiny. About the same time he acquired a waste land grant of 5,200 acres in the Burhapara pargana of Gonda, known as Cooknagar; this was purchased outright for about Rs. 42,000. Subsequently shares in five villages, with an aggregate area of 92 acres, were bought either by Mr. Cooke or by his agent, Mr. E. J. Churcher, who managed the estate with great success from 1876 till 1905, when he was succeeded by Mr. M. T. Stern. Mr. Cooke died in 1873, leaving a widow and three daughters, to whom the property was bequeathed in equal shares. On the death of Mrs. Cooke, the whole came into her daughters' possession, and at the present time the owners are Mrs. Walter and Mrs. Thomson, daughters, and Captain Oakes, Mr. Crawshay, and Mrs. Simpson, the children of the third daughter, Mrs. Oakes. The proprietors reside in England. The total area of the estate in this district is 17,250 acres, of which 6,254 acres are in pargana Basti West and the rest in Basti East and Nagar East, and the revenue demand is Rs. 16,978. The Cooke estate.

In 1860, when the penultimate settlement of the district was effected, it was ascertained that of the total cultivated assessed area 32 per cent. was cultivated by the proprietors themselves, 23 per cent. by tenants with rights of occupancy, and 55 per cent. by tenants-at-will. Since that time the relative proportions of the different classes have changed, but not to a very material extent, and the alterations that have taken place exhibit a different tendency to that observed in other parts or at any rate in the western districts of the United Provinces. In 1889, at the time of the last settlement, the occupancy area had increased to 27 per cent. and that of tenants-at-will had fallen to 45 per cent. two per cent. consisted of land held rent-free or in ex-proprietary right, Cultivating tenures.

and the remaining 26 per cent. was in the hands of the proprietors, 15 per cent. being classified as *sir* and 11 per cent. as *khudkasht*. Subsequent years have shown a remarkable growth of proprietary cultivation, which is the natural result of the minute subdivision of property which characterises the district. The petty co-sharer is compelled to make the most of his lands by cultivating them himself; and though it might be expected that he would extend his own cultivation at the expense of the non-occupancy tenant, this in actual experience does not prove to be the case. The area held by tenants without rights has in fact grown since the settlement, and in 1905 amounted to 46·13 per cent. while proprietary cultivation had risen to 13·75 per cent. in the case of *sir* and 19·77 per cent. for *khudkasht*, the total being 33·52 per cent. of the cultivated area. With ·24 per cent. held by ex-proprietary tenants and ·25 per cent. rent-free, there remains but 19·86 per cent. held by tenants with rights of occupancy, and this class alone shows an appreciable decrease. The reason doubtless lies in the fact that it is possible to rack-rent only the tenants-at-will, so that the tendency is to get rid of the protected occupancy tenants whenever feasible.

Cultivating castes. Mention has already been made of the chief cultivating classes in dealing with the principal castes of the district. The foremost place is taken by Brahmans, whose inferior style of cultivation has been noticed above; they hold altogether 19·3 per cent. of the cultivated area and predominate in most parganas of the district, the exceptions being Basti East and Mahuli West, in which Kurmis have the largest area, while in Bansi West, Rasulpur and Maghar East they rank second after the Musalmans. The latter altogether hold nearly 15 per cent. of the cultivation, surpassing all other castes in the parganas last mentioned and also holding a very prominent position in the Bansi tahsil; the lower classes exhibit a noteworthy standard of husbandry, and are little inferior to the best of the Hindus. In the third place come the Kurmis, with 11·9 per cent. of the cultivation, their largest holdings being in Basti East and Mahuli West, where they surpass all other castes, although in every part of the district they are found in considerable numbers. On the whole they take the leading place among all castes on account of

their skill and industry; they are greatly assisted by their women, who regularly work in the fields. The Ahirs, who also are cultivators of a high order, hold 8·2 per cent. and are most numerous in the Khalilabad and Bansi tahsils. Then come the Rajputs with eight per cent. most of these being proprietary cultivators, as is also the case with the Brahmans and Kayasths; their style of husbandry is very similar to that of the last two castes, being generally of a careless description. They occur in largest numbers in the Amorha pargana, where they rank second to the Brahmans. The Chamars hold 5·8 per cent. and many of them are good cultivators; and Koeris, who are almost the equal of the Kurmis, are in possession of 2·6 per cent. chiefly in the northern parganas. Next come Kayasths, Ahirs, Muraos, Kahars and many other castes of no particular importance as agriculturists. The proportion of land held by Kurmis, Ahirs and Koeris amounts altogether to nearly 24 per cent. of the cultivated area, and this fact is of the greatest importance in the economic condition of the district.

Throughout the greater part of the district the rents are paid in cash, and this system has prevailed for a long period. As early as 1860 it was stated that cash rents were the rule, and that payments in kind were only common in the northern parganas—a state of affairs which exists to the present time. Rents are commonly fixed at a definite rate per *bigha* of the tenant's holding, but sometimes a lump sum is determined for the whole area. At the last settlement the general incidence was Rs. 3-12-0 per acre, and this rate was 36 per cent. higher than that prevailing at the previous assessment. On the latter occasion rents were considered to be extremely low, the great majority of the cultivators being wholly subject to the *zamindars;* so that the whole increase in the Government demand was simply transferred to the tenants direct, and the cultivators accepted this arrangement without protest. As early as 1865 rents had risen by 13 per cent. and this rise may be regarded as the effect of an increased revenue demand in stimulating an exceptionally low rental. During the rest of the period the increase in the population, added to a general improvement in cultivation, as shown by the more extensive growth of valuable crops, and the opening up of means Rents.

of communication, resulting in a steady demand for grain and an enhancement of the local value of rice and other staples, together operated to raise rents throughout the district. The accepted rent rates of the last settlement ranged from Rs. 7-2-0 per acre for the best land in the parganas of Basti East and Nagar East to Re. 1-6-0 per acre for the dry *bhur* tract on the edge of the uplands. The lowest all round incidence was found in the Rasulpur and Bansi West parganas, where the average rate was Rs. 3-7-3; while at the other extreme came Basti East, Nagar East, and Amorha with rates of Rs. 4-7-7 and Rs. 4-7-3. Since the settlement there has been a general rise in rents, but it is not possible to determine its extent, owing to the growing prevalence of the practice of concealment in all parts of the district. Recent inquiries have shown that in the Bansi tahsil alone more than one lakh of rupees has been excluded from the rent-roll, and the results of attestation show that in many villages the rental has increased to an amount ranging from 20 to 40 per cent.

Grain rents.

In the greater part of the district grain rents are confined to small patches of *jarhan* land, which are let out on this system because of the large amount of grain which they yield to the landlord; or else to plots of dry *bhur*, for which tenants will not pay cash rents. It is only in the northern portion of the Domariaganj tahsil, where little else but *jarhan* is grown, that the rent of entire villages is paid in kind. In the rice-growing tappas of Dhebarua and Khajahni, and also in Awainia, Budhi and Kop, there are large tracts in which cash rents are only paid for poppy and garden crops. At the time of the last settlement 47,356 acres, or slightly less than four per cent. of the whole cultivated area, were under grain rents, and of this more than 28,000 acres were found in Domariaganj. Since the settlement the grain area has undergone a marked decrease, and in 1905 little more than 25,000 acres were thus held. Rents in kind are chiefly paid on the system known as *batai* or division of crops. The grain, when threshed and winnowed, is arranged in heaps, of which both parties take a certain number according to custom. In the north the practice is first to deduct the ploughman's share or *bhata*, which is usually one-fifth, but sometimes only one-sixth, of the whole, and then to divide the remainder between the tenant

and the landlord. The latter thus nominally gets two-fifths of the crop, but this is really reduced to one-third by reason of the various dues which have to be deducted. In the south of the district different customs are observed for the spring and autumn harvests. On both occasions the grain is divided into six heaps, and one of these is appropriated by the tenant as a preliminary measure. Of the remaining five the landlord receives two only at the spring harvest, but two and a half in the *kharif*. This custom appears to owe its origin to the fact that the autumn harvest consists mainly of the people's food, whereas the *rabi* is principally grown for export.

Plough rentals.

A peculiar tenure which is only found in the north of the Domariaganj tahsil is that of *halbandi* or plough rental. This is fully explained by Mr. Hooper in his settlement report.* In villages where this system prevails the rent is calculated as so much per plough. Thus, where for example a village is said to contain 32 ploughs and the plough rate is Rs. 25, the total rental will be Rs. 800, to which each tenant contributes his share according to the number of ploughs, or the fraction of a plough, which he holds. As in reality the tenant pays for the area of land which is supposed to be equal to the tillage of a plough, and as the rate does not vary, it is necessary to ensure that each holding is exactly equal in area and value. Consequently every tenant is given a share in every portion of land in the different parts of the village; so that the *halbandi* is in fact a tenants' *pattidari*, and as tenants are more numerous than bodies of owners, and even more jealous of each other, the system results in extreme subdivision and infinitesimally small fields. The ploughs in the first place are divided into *thoks*, and the village lands are split up into a series of blocks or *patias*, one series for each thok; and every part of these, however small, which may be considered to differ in value or quality from the rest, must be split up into portions corresponding in number to the *thoks*. "Thus each *thok* must have its *patia* in the wheat lands on the south of the village, in the more sandy lands in the north, in the lands which are near to a well or tank, in the small patch of potato or tobacco land

* Final report, p. 36.

round the village site, in the deeper part of the *jarhan dabar* which is likely to get flooded, in the higher part of it where the *jarhan* is likely to suffer from the drought, and in the part between the two where the *jarhan* grows best. It must get its share in the *rihar*, if there is any, and in the *kachhar*. I have even seen a little pond divided into *patias*, because it sometimes dried up and grew *jarhan*." Then again every *patia* has to be divided between the ploughs which compose the *thok*; so that each tenant must get a bit of each *patia* belonging to the *thok* throughout the village proportionally to his share. As the members of the *thok* are entirely separate, cultivating and paying their rent separately, the result of this system may be better imagined than described; the more so as a plough is a purely conventional area and no longer applies to the amount of land held by a single tenant. This *halbandi* system does not necessarily imply a cash rental, as the *batai* villages are divided into *patias* and ploughs in the same manner. Occasionally a curious custom known as *adh-batai* or half-*batai* is to be found, the rent of each plough being paid half in cash and half in kind, so that the tenant pays half the plough rate as well as one-fifth of the entire outturn. In most *halbandi* villages the system is incomplete, as there is a certain amount of *ukhra* or extra rent paid for lands not included in the plough holdings. This generally consists of small plots in the neighbourhood of the village site used for poppy cultivation; but sometimes it is a larger plot of the outlying land, which has only been recently reclaimed and was not under cultivation when the *halbandi* was made. In a few instances *sir* land is so treated, but usually land tilled by the owners is calculated as so many ploughs in the general *halbandi*; though such ploughs are almost always larger than those of the tenants. The latter usually range from six to eight acres, and the rent varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30.

Village dues.

The preservation of ancient customs regarding the village dues, though noticeable throughout the district, is most forcibly illustrated in the grain-rented *halbandi* tracts. Here the system of the primitive village republic survives in full force. "No one of the cultivating body, whether he be a landlord or tenant, is allowed to pick out the good land of the village for himself;

every description of land, good and bad, is distributed rateably among the cultivators in the proportion of the number of plough-cattle which each person possesses. The entire community has an interest in the grain heap: not only the landowner, the tenant and the ploughman; but also the village menials, artizans, and others, who are paid for the various services they render to the agriculturists, not in cash, but by a fixed allowance at harvest time. The most important shares in the heap are, of course, that of the landlord or *sarkar*, that of the tenant, and that of the ploughman. If the tenant keeps no ploughman, he takes the ploughman's share in addition to his own." The dues paid to village menials and others, known as *jeora*, vary in different estates, but those which are customary in Dhebarua may be taken as a fair example. There the village barber, Dhobi, Barhai, Lohar, and Ahir receive full *jeora*, which consists of four *panseris* for each plough of cultivation, and an additional *panseri*, called *kalyani*, when the division has taken place. The Kahar for supplying water, and sometimes the Kumhar, receive half *jeora*, and the same amount is given to the astrologer or *pandit*, who determines the propitious times for ploughing, sowing and reaping, and also to the *sokha* or exorcist, who secures the village from evil spirits by performing the ceremony of *dih-bandwa*, and sets up the curious little posts known as Jak and Jakni which are seen outside most of the villages. The latter is usually a Tharu, although the office is sometimes performed by an Ojha Brahman. These dues are paid three times in the year; from the *rabi*, from the *usahan* or autumn crop, and from the *jarhan* or winter rice harvest. Other deductions are made from the heap before the division between landlord and tenant, most of these being found in the neighbouring districts of northern Oudh. Thus five *anjuris* or double handfuls are taken for Brahmans, and a smaller quantity for Faqirs; and an indefinite amount, known as *agwar*, is taken by the *harwahin* or ploughman's wife, and a regular allowance is given to the weighman. Before the grain is threshed out, still further allowances are made. The Ahir, Barhai, and Lohar obtain, in addition to the *jeora*, an amount known as *mandi* or one-twenty-fourth part of a *bigha* of the standing crop per plough; while the herdsman gets four

mandis, one for each bullock, and the reaper receives one sheaf in fifty as *loni*, this amount being doubled in the case of the proprietor's *sir* land.

Condition of the people.

In an agricultural district like Basti, the rise in prices has necessarily benefited the majority of the inhabitants, but it has not resulted in any material change in the standard of comfort. Though no agricultural depression is visible, there is no obtrusive prosperity; this being an inevitable consequence of an increased pressure on the soil and a more minute subdivision of holdings and property. With each generation the size of estates decreases, and the owners are driven to fall back on their own cultivation for a living. A peasant proprietary, as has been shown by the example of France, can only maintain its position by extreme thrift and by the exercise of prudential checks on population; but though the small *zamindar* of Basti yields to none in the matter of thriftiness, the customs of his race and religion compel him to marry and beget children; and if he has daughters, he must spend on their marriage a sum out of all proportion to his means. In this district these causes are more conspicuously illustrated than elsewhere, owing to the unusual prevalence of the higher castes, and it cannot be denied that the burden of debt presses heavily. None the less, the professional moneylender has made little headway, as property is seldom sold to an outsider, and the Bania would have but a small chance among the strong coparcenary communities of the district. As regards the tenants, they are no worse off than their brethren in other parts. The keen competition for land places them almost entirely in the hands of the landlords; but the soil is fertile, famines are practically unknown, litigation is comparatively rare, and if the *zamindar* is apt to exact more rent than is shown in the village papers, he cannot be too stringent, as he knows that realisation is impossible in the courts. And even if he ejects a tenant to prevent the acquisition of occupancy rights, it is generally found that he relets the land to some other member of the family. The ordinary tenant is habituated to the idea of debt, and though the rate of interest is high, the village moneylender must of necessity be a patient master. Whether the principle of co-operation will end in supplanting him

the future alone can tell, but that the tenant's position would be improved a hundredfold can scarcely be doubted. But if there are no great signs of amelioration in the state of the landholders and tenants, the labouring classes have assuredly bettered their position. Forty years ago the status of the professional ploughman almost amounted to slavery; and even in 1889 Mr. Hooper placed it on record that the majority of the ploughmen in the north of Domariaganj were still serfs. The term applied to these persons was *sawaki*, a corruption of *sravaka*, meaning in Sanskrit a pupil or votary; it is still known and used in the adjoining district of Gonda. In consideration for an advance of cash the *sawaki* bound himself, his wife and children, to work for their master till the money was repaid. Such a contingency was never contemplated, and a man and his wife could usually be bought outright for Rs. 50 or Rs. 60; but the fact which differentiated the *sawak* bond from slavery was that it could not be enforced legally, and an escape was always possible. Three kinds of *sawak* were to be found. There was the *tihara* ploughman, who had no cattle, but a field of his own; he was bound to work two days for his master, and on the third he could use the cattle for his own holding. The *dharmahadar* was the servant of two masters, working half the day for each; he received, however, a cash wage, and was only bound to work for half the year. The third class was the *sawakdar* or *chhatian*, who worked one plough for one master throughout the year; receiving one-sixth of the grain, or else a small plot of rent-free land. But nowadays the ploughman, even in the extreme north of Domariaganj, has a holding of his own, and if he works for his master without payment, he does so in order that he may have the use of his master's cattle for his own fields. In other parts of the district it is rare to find a labourer who is not also a tenant.

CHAPTER IV.

ADMINISTRATION AND REVENUE.

The executive staff of the district comprises a magistrate and collector, who is under the commissioner of Gorakhpur, and his subordinate officers. The latter include five magistrates of the first class and one with third class powers, as well as five tahsildars. Besides these, for the purposes of criminal jurisdiction there are several honorary magistrates, six of whom form a bench at the district headquarters for the police circles of Basti, Kalwari, Rudhauli, Sonhan, Budhabandh and Barakoni; they exercise powers of the second class when the Raja of Basti is present, but otherwise those of the third class. Two others, Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar and Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur of Bhanpur, are invested with third class magisterial powers within the limits of those police circles in which their estates are situated. The chief criminal appellate court is that of the judge of Gorakhpur, but cases committed to sessions by magistrates are tried by the judge of Jaunpur, who is also additional judge of Gorakhpur for the purpose of holding sessions at Basti six times in the year. As regards civil jurisdiction the district is included in the charge of the judge of Gorakhpur, who is assisted by the subordinate judge, as well as by two munsifs, stationed at Basti and Bansi; the latter's circle comprises the Bansi and Domariaganj tahsils, as well as the Ghosiari and Rudhauli tappas of pargana Maghar West, and that of Basti the rest of the district with the exception of the six south-eastern tappas of pargana Mahuli East, which for purposes of convenience are attached to the *munsifi* of Bansgaon in the Gorakhpur district. An attempt has recently been made to establish village munsifs for the disposal of petty cases, and in 1902 as many as 56 such courts were instituted, but these were confined to the Basti tahsil alone: the office does not so far show signs of becoming popular, nor do the people make much use of these courts. The

District staff.

remaining executive staff includes the superintendent of police, the sub-deputy opium agent and his assistants, one of whom lives at Bansi, the civil surgeon and an assistant surgeon, the district engineer and the postmaster.

Formation of the district. Basti is one of the more recently constituted districts of the United Provinces. Up to the year 1801 it remained a remote and forest-clad tract in the *nizamat* of Gorakhpur; but in that year it was ceded by the Nawab Wazir of Oudh to the East India Company, and till 1865 remained an integral part of the vast collectorate of Gorakhpur. Its history prior to that year is consequently so intimately connected with that of Gorakhpur that it is far from easy to separate the two: the more so as the new district was not formed from entire parganas, but the boundary was drawn conventionally so as to cut off the western portion of the old fiscal division, which could not any longer be properly administered from headquarters. The original intention was apparently to utilize the Rapti river and its affluent, the Jamuwar, as the boundary, but this plan was abandoned, as a few tappas east of the Jamuwar were included in Basti, while the eastern portions of the Maghar and Binayakpur parganas still remained in Gorakhpur.

Subdivisions. The constitution of the new district necessitated a fresh arrangement of tahsils, and for this purpose the old division by parganas was to a large extent abandoned. Almost all the original parganas were split up into two portions, and instead of the original eight there are now thirteen. Though they have ceased to be of much importance as administrative units, their existence is still of interest from a historical point of view, as they coincide with the limits of the old independent principalities such as those of Amorha, Bansi and Nagar. Under the present arrangement the Domariaganj tahsil comprises the parganas of Rasulpur and Bansi West; the Bansi tahsil those of Bansi East and Binayakpur; the Haraiya tahsil those of Amorha, Basti West and Nagar West; the Basti tahsil those of Basti East, Nagar East, Maghar West and Mahuli West; and the Khalilabad tahsil includes the two parganas of Maghar East and Mahuli East.

Tappas. Subordinate to the parganas are the minor tracts known as tappas, which are perhaps the oldest local subdivisions of the

country. The ancient *raj*, or territory of each independent Raja, though its boundaries were occasionally altered by the results of petty warfare, was usually marked off with clearness, and corresponded fairly closely to the pargana; but the division into tappas seems to have been almost as ancient and even more clearly defined. Its exact origin is difficult to ascertain; but there is much in favour of the theory that tappas represent lands held by vassals or dependents of the Rajas. In other districts the word is found not uncommonly, and it almost invariably serves to denote a portion of an estate, and seems to be analogous to the later *mahal* or revenue-paying unit. There are altogether 131 tappas in the district with an average area of 21 square miles. They vary greatly in size, averaging 46 square miles in Amorha and 41 in Rasulpur, while in Mahuli East they are little more than ten square miles. As these subdivisions are still of considerable administrative importance, a complete list is here given. Their positions and boundaries may be seen by referring to the map accompanying this volume.

Pargana Rasulpur—
- Awsinia.
- Karhi.
- Halaur.
- Sagara.
- Chhapia.
- Adampur.
- Bhanpur.
- Sehari.

Pargana Bansi West—
- Dhebarua.
- Khajahni.
- Dewaichpar.
- Khankot.
- Kop.
- Budhi.
- Hir.
- Kot.
- Khuniaon.
- Khaira.
- Barikpar.

Pargana Bansi East—
- Banjaraha.
- Ghaus.
- Aikhin.
- Barhon.
- Dabra.
- Sirwant.
- Nandapar.
- Tharauli.
- Gharwaspar.
- Bargadua.

P. Bansi East—(*contd.*).
- Sohas.
- Suhela.
- Untapar.
- Nagwa.
- Naksauli.
- Kondri.
- Hata.
- Pachahr.
- Chaur.
- Chhatisi.
- Bisongaon.
- Bhir.
- Patharhat.
- Patna Hasanpur.
- Gulaur.
- Kesarha.
- Kodaran.
- Asnar.
- Masna.

Pargana Binayakpur—
- Bhatinpar.
- Netwar.

Pargana Amorha—
- Bangaon.
- Puraina.
- Sikandarpur.
- Ramgarh.
- Dubaulia.
- Belwa.

Pargana Nagar West—
- Ganeshpur.
- Khuriar.

P. Nagar West—(*contd.*).
- Manwarpara.
- Nawai.
- Uji.

Pargana Basti West—
- Sheopur.
- Atroh.
- Ratanpur.
- Hardi.

Pargana Nagar East—
- Haveli Nagar.
- Dobakhra.
- Kalwari.
- Kanela.
- Kurha.
- Pipra.
- Pilai.

Pargana Basti East—
- Haveli.
- Kothila.
- Umra.
- Sikandarpur.
- Pandia.
- Karar.
- Deoraon.

Pargana Maghar West—
- Ghosiari.
- Banskhor.
- Rudhauli.

Pargana Mahuli West—
- Kapri Mahson.
- Koraon.
- Karri.

P. Mahuli West—*(contd.)*.	P. Maghar East—*(contd.)*.	P. Mahuli East—*(contd.)*.
Dehi.	Dewapar.	Kuchri.
Mahtauli.	Atrawal.	Simri.
Kabra.	Phulethu.	Taraf Belghatia.
Bargaon Pagar.	Bakuchi.	Satahra.
Jagannathpur.	Belhar.	Mahthi.
Kudraha.	Gopalpur.	Buzurgwar.
Charkaila.	Sakra.	Tariapar.
Sheobakhri.	Majaura.	Mahabra.
Pargana Maghar East—	Bakhira.	Deokali.
Haveli South.	Mehndawal.	Karsand.
Maghar.	Pargana Mahuli East—	Fidaipur.
Rampur Paili.	Auradand.	Manda.
Un.	Bankot.	Tama.
Amanabad.	Muradpur.	Chandraoti.
Churaib.	Ajaon.	Sirsi.
Ujiar.	Naudand.	Baragaon.

Fiscal history. The fiscal history of the district may be said properly to begin with the cession of Gorakhpur in 1801; but the subsequent changes that have taken place from time to time render it very difficult to obtain accurate returns for that portion of Gorakhpur which constitutes the present district of Basti. When the tract first came under British rule, the whole country was in a miserable state owing to the exactions practised by the Oudh officials. During the first year an attempt was made to collect the revenue formerly demanded by the Oudh government through the agency of tahsildars, who received, in addition to a fixed salary, a percentage of the collections on condition of realizing a fair proportion. As a matter of fact, the collections in 1801-02 showed a large balance, and it was determined to make a settlement at fair rates for three years. This settlement was effected on the *taluqdari* system, engagements being taken from the Rajas and large proprietors at a lump sum for the entire estates. Thus on one occasion the whole pargana of Bansi was settled with the Raja, and on another the settlement of a great part of Maghar East, with some of the adjoining tappas in Bansi, was made with the Babu of Bakhira. The demand for the parganas which belonged to Basti at the first settlement was Rs. 2,26,660.* The figures are taken from the village statements and should probably be correct, although they differ from those given by Mr. Hooper. The amount appears very small, and reflects on the state of the district at that time; the early collectors referred again and again to the difficulties they experienced in their attempts to bring the waste lands under cultivation, and when

*Appendix, Table IX.

immigrants began to come in from Oudh, they preferred the revenue-free villages, in which they obtained land cheaply, to the revenue-paying *mahals* in which they had to pay higher rents. Thus the increase in the revenue during the first few settlements was by no means proportionate to the extent of cultivation. There was a wholly excessive number of *muafi* villages, while those classed as *wiran* or waste were also exempted from the Government demand. In 1802-03 no less than 332,465 acres were returned as revenue-free and 514,499 acres as waste; doubtless much of this area was fraudulently recorded as such, but the fact remained that more than half the district paid no revenue at all. Further difficulties were caused by the refusal of some proprietors to engage, which compelled the Government to resort to leases, though this system frequently proved ineffectual owing to the contumacy of the landholders.

Second settlement.

The second triennial settlement was made in 1805-06, resulting in a considerable increase in the total demand. The revenue of Basti was then Rs. 3,41,569, the assessment being much higher than before in the Basti and Haraiya tahsils, while elsewhere it showed in some instances a distinct decline. Such reduction appears to have been necessary, for in some places the *zamindars* were beginning to quit their villages for the forest, threatening to eject by force any one who might till their lands during their absence. The nominally-assessed area was almost as large as before, amounting to 842,065 acres. The chief difficulty, however, lay in the dishonesty of the subordinate officials, and in this connection the unwieldy size of the district, rendering proper supervision impossible, was brought prominently into notice. In 1808 the Board of Commissioners made a protracted inquiry on the spot, and it was resolved to abolish the tahsildars; but the scheme proved a failure and these officials were reappointed two years later.

Third settlement.

The third settlement was made in 1808-09 for a period of four years. The demand for Basti was Rs. 3,77,460, every tahsil except Basti showing an increase, and especially Bansi and Domariaganj. Some attempt had been made to reduce the revenue-free and barren areas, but the result so far achieved was small, and 684,151 acres were still unassessed. The same

difficulty was experienced in collecting even this small amount, with the consequence that sales became numerous, though the discontent was to some extent checked by the practice of settling with the Rajas direct.

Fourth settlement.

A fourth settlement was made in 1812-13, though apparently it did not come into force till two years later. By that time the amount of revenue-free and barren lands had been greatly decreased, although it was still excessive, aggregating 342,117 acres or nearly one-fifth of the district. The demand was raised in every tahsil, the total being Rs. 4,58,664, and on this occasion again the two northern tahsils exhibited the most rapid development. During the early years of this assessment collections were rendered very difficult by reason of the Nepal war, the effects of which were felt throughout the district; lawlessness prevailed everywhere and robbery was very frequent, a large gang in 1814 actually attacking the Bansi tahsil and being only repelled after a stubborn fight. In the same year Rs. 20,000 were carried off from Government treasure carts near Maghar. This settlement was originally made for a period of five years, and at the end of this term it was proposed to make a permanent settlement, similar to that in force in the province of Benares. The scheme was fortunately abandoned, in view of the backward state of the district, and the current settlement was continued with small modifications till 1839. Some attempt was made to carry out a regular settlement under Regulation VII of 1822, but the measures taken appear to have been but partial, although we learn that an increase of Rs. 14,000 was effected in pargana Amorha and one of Rs. 16,000 in Bansi. Other steps were taken with regard to the examination of rights in land, and a large number of the rent-free grants held by pensioners of the native government were resumed, while a genuine effort to secure the preparation of reliable statistics resulted in a reduction of the revenue-free area to 49,267 acres and that of the so-called barren lands to 4,656 acres.

Fifth settlement.

The fifth, or first regular, settlement was made under Regulation IX of 1833, though its introduction was delayed for several causes and final sanction was not accorded till 1841. The settlement was based on a professional survey, by which the boundaries of the

different properties were defined with accuracy and exact statistics of area were secured. This survey proved of the greatest value, and owing to the definite information now for the first time available, a great number of villages were brought under assessment which had hitherto been neglected. Another important feature of this settlement was that it was made directly with the *birtias* as *zamindars*, the rights of the superior proprietors being limited to a *malikana*, which was collected with the revenue and afterwards paid to the Rajas and *taluqdars* from the treasury. The district had by this time greatly improved, and the small *zamindars*, now rendered independent, found it possible to develop their villages and extend their cultivation in full security. The total demand was fixed at Rs. 10,04,385, or more than double the amount of the last assessment; but the results were most satisfactory, and the only opposition came from the Rajas, who resented a measure which had deprived them of much of their old authority.

Sixth settlement.

The settlement was sanctioned for a period of 20 years and expired on the 30th of June 1859. The preliminary work was commenced in good time, but was interrupted by the mutiny, and consequently the new assessments were not introduced till some years after the former settlement had expired. The assessment of pargana Amorha was reported in 1861; that of Maghar and Mahuli in the following year; of Rasulpur in 1863, of Bansi and Binayakpur in 1864; and that of Basti and Nagar in 1865, while final sanction was not received till eight years later. In 1873 the settlement was accepted by Government for a period of 30 years from the date when the last settlement expired, terminating on the 30th of June 1889. The work was entrusted to various officers: Mr. P. J. White assessing Amorha, Nagar and Basti; Mr. H. Wilson, Maghar and Mahuli; and Mr. Wynne, the bulk of the remainder. The settlement, which was preceded by a survey made by *amins* and *patwaris*, was effected under what are known as the Saharanpur rules, modified to some extent by special instructions referring to this district and Gorakhpur. The most important change was the substitution of one-half for two-thirds of the assets as the Government share, on the ground that the more certain information available would

provide a more accurate estimate of the true rental, of which two-thirds was a larger share than could ordinarily be paid in a long course of years. All the officers employed in the Basti district were guided by pargana estimates framed by the Board of Revenue, but their methods differed considerably. Mr. White, working with assumed rates on the natural soils, assessed on the estimates of the rental thus obtained. Mr. Wilson, anticipating the present system, relied mainly on the existing rent-rolls, on which he based his assessments after careful correction. Mr. Wynne adopted a more elaborate procedure. He first worked out a rough estimate and rental for each pargana by applying differential rates to the soils classified conventionally according to their distance from the village site; and in pargana Rasulpur, at any rate, he checked this by an estimate obtained from a committee of *zamindars* and others. The amount thus determined was then apportioned to the villages of the pargana by the application of village rates assumed for each tappa and village. In Bansi and Binayakpur he abandoned the estimate by native officials and landowners, and worked out differential rates on crops, in addition to those for villages and tappas. In every case he checked the results by a careful personal inspection. The assessment for the whole district, arrived at by these different methods, appears to have been very moderate; but it was only natural that the distribution should fail to be equal in all parganas and estates. The total demand was raised to Rs. 12,84,993, giving an enhancement of nearly 33 per cent. while the cultivation had increased by 17 per cent.

Working of the settlement.

On the whole the assessment worked well, though some difficulty in collection was experienced during the early years, the chief causes being drought and scarcity in 1865, 1869 and 1874; but it is clear that the demand did not generally press heavily, as in the famine of 1877-78 only Rs. 1,228 remained outstanding. The more severe forms of coercive processes were seldom employed, settlement being annulled in only two villages which broke down owing to the failure of the rice crop in 1873, while in no single case was it found necessary to have recourse to sale. It is true that during the currency of this settlement transfers of property by sale and mortgage were very numerous; but the vast majority of

the transfers took place between different sharers in the same community or else were due to extravagance and mismanagement, as was the case with the late Raja of Basti. The fact that during the last ten years of the settlement land sold on an average at 15 years' purchase proved that the assessment must have been extremely moderate.

Seventh and current settlement.

By the time the settlement had expired it was obvious that the demand had become distinctly light. The cultivated area had increased by 20 per cent., and the prices of agricultural produce had risen by at least 33 per cent.; while at the same time the construction of the railway through the district had opened new markets and permanently raised the value of grain. The general effect was strikingly illustrated by the fact that the recorded rental had risen by 56 per cent., and from the first it was certain that a large enhancement would be obtained without difficulty. The new settlement was made under the special rules of 1883, which laid down certain general principles for assessment. In the first place, the revenue demand for each village was to be based as far as possible on the recorded cash rental of tenants' land. Secondly, fraudulent or manifestly inadequate rent-rolls, which did not give a reasonable increase over and above the amount of the demand fixed under the expiring settlement, were to be rejected; and thirdly, the recorded rent-roll was to be corrected, both for land cultivated by proprietors and rented at nominal rates, and also for land recorded as rent-free or held on grain rents. In the case of land actually cultivated by the owners, the rent-rate was to be 25 per cent. less than the village tenant rate of the same circle. As a general principle, it was laid down that the revenue should be 50 per cent. of the assets; but it was left to the discretion of the settlement officer to allow variations from this standard in exceptional cases to the extent of five per cent. in either direction. The rules also indicated the methods in which the village, standard, and prevailing tenant rent-rates were to be obtained, and gave directions for their use in testing the recorded rent-rolls and correcting them for owners' holdings, as well as for grain-rented, rent-free and under-rented lands. They also provided means for securing to those landholders who had increased the rental of their estates through irrigation and other works of

improvement, or through the reclamation of waste lands, by the outlay of their own or borrowed capital, the enjoyment of the increased rental for such a period as would permit them fully to recoup their expenditure. In cases where the new assessment involved a large enhancement on the old demand, special arrangements were allowed with the object of mitigating the suddenness of the change and for imposing the increment by successive stages spread over a number of years.

Assessment. The initial operations were undertaken by the survey department, which carried out a cadastral survey of each village and prepared new field maps. The records thus obtained were verified and corrected by the settlement officer and his assistant, who then proceeded to make a personal inspection of each *mahal* in detail. The work in 1883-84 was entrusted to Mr. V. A. Smith, but no assessments were made at this preliminary stage, and after the first year the operations were under the control of Mr. J. Hooper, assisted by Mr. D. C. Baillie. The Haraiya tahsil was the first to be dealt with, the assessment being reported in October 1886. That of Basti followed a year later, and that of Khalilabad was submitted in July 1888. During the ensuing cold weather 524 square miles were inspected, the assessment of Domariaganj being completed in July 1889, and that of Bansi on the 20th of September. Final sanction was accorded by the Local Government in November 1892. The work was therefore spread over a considerable period, and the cost was consequently heavy, amounting to something over Rs. 521 per square mile. This included, however, the expenditure on the survey, which averaged Rs. 180, while four-fifths of the remainder were due to the preparation of a correct record-of-rights—a boon which was rendered costly by the minute subdivision of villages and fields in this district. The settlement was sanctioned for a period of 30 years, and ordinarily will expire on the 30th of June 1919.

Revenue. In determining the assets the existing rent-rolls were for the most part accepted as genuine, though a certain number, amounting to between four and five per cent., had to be rejected as fraudulent. After correction, the total assets of the district, excluding revenue-free lands, amounted to Rs. 42,98,016, to which was added *sayar* income to the extent of Rs. 27,798. The latter

was treated with great moderation, being of an uncertain character, easy to conceal and difficult to estimate. Such income is principally derived from *mahua* trees, thatching grass, the fish, reeds and rushes of a few large lakes, and a number of minor items too small to be taken into account. On the other hand, the sum of Rs. 1,75,794 was excluded on account of proprietary cultivation. A further reduction of Rs. 83,589 was made on account of improvements, which were almost wholly confined to the estates of the European grantees. The assessable assets were thus Rs. 42,49,025, including Rs. 6,800 as the rental of the ferries held by the Raja of Bansi. The proportion taken as revenue was 45·7 per cent., being almost exactly half the recorded collections for the year of attestation, and 52 per cent. of the average recorded collections for the six years ending in 1883. The final net realizable demand was Rs. 19,44,175, showing an enhancement of no less than 46 per cent. on the expiring revenue, and giving an incidence of Re. 1-10-4 per acre of cultivation, as compared with Re. 1-4-8 per acre at the time of the former settlement. It would doubtless have been possible to have fixed a considerably larger amount without injustice, but the assessment was intentionally moderate, and this decision was arrived at for several reasons. One of these was the inadvisability of making too sudden an increase, and in as many as 926 villages the new demand was made progressive; in 845 the final revenue was reached by one step and became payable after five years, while in the rest it was brought into force when ten years had expired. The collection of Rs. 58,001 was thus postponed for the first period, and Rs. 9,854 for the second five years.

Results.

There has never been any difficulty in realizing the demand, and although the district was visited in 1896-97 by a scarcity which at one time approached famine, the situation was adequately met by the suspension of revenue to the amount of Rs. 80,971, of which Rs. 25,501 were finally remitted. Not a single share has been sold for arrears of revenue, and the demand has already become light owing to the fact that most of the increment has been passed on to the tenants. The demand for land is great, and, as has always been the case in Basti, the tenants are completely under the control of the landholders, who are thus enabled

to exact from them a considerably higher rate of rent than that shown in the village papers. Efforts are, however, now being made to bring the rent-rolls up to date, and on the completion of this work the extreme leniency of the revenue demand will be manifest, though even from the first there was no question as to the respect paid in making the assessments to the interest of the proprietary body.

Nominal demand.

The sum mentioned above as the revenue actually payable includes Rs. 3,400 due on account of the ferries held by the Raja of Bansi, but it does not include the amount nominally assessed on revenue-free lands for the purpose of calculating cesses. The revenue-free-holdings have a nominal demand of Rs. 64,183. They exist in 145 villages, but they are for the most part very small, with the exception of the *nankar* of the Bansi Raja, consisting of 86 villages in the Bansi and Domariaganj tahsils. The remaining villages are scattered about the district, and the revenues are generally assigned for the upkeep of shrines and temples. Another instance of nominal demand is that of the permanently-settled estates belonging to the Pindaris, who were given 27 villages, of which 26 are situated in the Haraiya tahsil and one in Basti. This property was originally sold for arrears of revenue and bought by Government; it was then granted to one of the leaders of the defeated army of Amir Khan after the destruction of the Pindari power by Lord Hastings. The actual assessment of this estate is Rs. 1,866, but the nominal revenue is Rs. 12,906. Further, the sum of Rs. 37,731 was assessed on the *jagirs* held at the time of settlement by the *goraits* or village watchmen, to become payable on their resumption. The amount actually payable in 1905 was Rs. 19,57,955, the increase being due partly to the resumption of these *jagirs* and partly to the assessment of grants of which the term has expired since the completion of the settlement. A deduction of Rs. 1,116 should be made from the amount, being the nominal demand on account of land acquired for roads and railways.*

Alluvial *mahals*.

The riverain *mahals* which are subject to alluvion and diluvion, were separately demarcated and assessed to revenue simultaneously with the last settlement of the district, but for a

* Appendix, Table X.

period of five years only. These *mahals* then numbered 414, but since that time 31 have been added to the list. They lie in eight parganas, 192 being affected by the action of the Rapti, 133 by that of the Ghagra, and the rest by the Kuwana. They are subject to revision of assessment every five years in rotation. Thus the *mahals* lying in Rasulpur, Bansi East and Maghar East were last settled in 1902; those of Amorha in 1903; those of Nagar West and Mahuli West in 1904, and those of Nagar East and Mahuli East in 1905. The mahals in pargana Rasulpur were, however, only settled for four years in 1901, in order that hereafter two parganas might come under revision each year. At the settlement the demand for these alluvial *mahals* amounted to Rs. 95,003, and this was included in the general revenue of the district. The figure now stands at Rs. 1,04,135.

Cesses. In addition to the revenue the usual cesses are collected in this district which are in force throughout the temporarily-settled portions of the province of Agra. They are calculated on the gross revenue demand, and in 1905 amounted to Rs. 2,06,877, as shown in the table given in the appendix.* This sum includes the *patwari* rate, which has since been abolished, as well as the ordinary ten per cent. local rate. The latter dates from 1871, when the various old cesses imposed for the upkeep of schools, roads, post-offices, and the like, were consolidated and received the sanction of law.

Police: former systems. The establishment of a regular police force is of comparatively recent origin. To the misgovernment of the Oudh prefects police in the modern sense of the term was unknown; and during the brief revival of native authority in 1857 many landholders clamoured for the abolition of this foreign innovation. Before the cession the village watchman of to-day was represented by the *dusadh*, a servant or petty official paid by the villagers to guard their crops. But in the north there existed a special gendarmerie known as Bantarias, who possibly held rent-free lands in remuneration for their supposed services in tracking offenders and recovering stolen goods from the forest: the grant of rent-free holdings was certainly confirmed to them about the time of the

* Appendix, Table X.

Nepalese war in 1814. With the introduction of British rule in 1801 a system was adopted whereby the tahsildars were supposed to maintain a police force out of the percentage allowed to them from the revenue collections. The practice, however, soon declared itself a failure, not only by reason of the untrustworthiness of the officials themselves, but also from the opposition displayed by the influential landholders. In 1809 a force of men, under the designation of *barkandaz*, was organized for the protection of the local treasuries and to escort convoys of treasure; but of police work in the sense of protecting private property they did nothing. They were located at the various tahsils and in stations at important places on the high roads; while a strong force of mounted police was kept up along the Oudh frontier in order to prevent incursions of Badhiks and other marauders from that lawless country. About the year 1818 officers were first appointed to the permanent charge of these *barkandaz* posts with power to arrest and send up for trial criminals offending within the limits of their jurisdiction; and from this beginning arose the present system. In 1835 or thereabouts a revision of the police administration took place, and several much-needed reforms were initiated. The number of posts was increased and an efficient force assigned to each—a step that was rendered imperative by the enormous size of the circles, several of which were over 800 square miles in extent. The pick of the police were still engaged in patrolling the frontier; but the work done was far from satisfactory, and one of the immediate causes of inquiry and reform was the constant occurrence of cases in which thieves, when caught red-handed, were executed by the captors on the spot. The police force was once again reorganised after the mutiny, and the system then introduced has been continued, with few modifications, to the present day.

Police-stations.

It appears from Buchanan's account that in 1813 the present district included the whole or part of ten police circles. These were of very irregular size, and corresponded generally with the old parganas. Thus Basti formed a single circle, as also did Amorha, Nagar and Mahuli, the stations being at Khamaria, Mahua Dabar and Sanichara. There were also stations at Bansi, Domariaganj, Maghar and Lotan, while part of Maghar lay apparently in

Gorakhpur, and the north of Bansi constituted a forest circle known as Dhuliya Bhandar. As mentioned above, the number of circles was subsequently increased in 1835, and further additions were made after the mutiny. For many years there were 29 police-stations, including three of the fourth class, which no longer exist. The Intwa circle was absorbed into that of Misraulia, whence the headquarters were subsequently transferred again to Intwa; that of Belwa Bazar was united with Chhaoni; while the station at Dubaulia was converted into an outpost, with an establishment of five men paid from the *nazul* funds. The old bazar dues of that place were confiscated after the mutiny and the market is now treated as *nazul* property. The 26 circles were very unequal in size and did not correspond with the ordinary revenue subdivisions of the district, nor was any regard apparently paid to natural boundaries. The inconvenience arising from this arrangement led to a general reconstruction when the present scheme was developed in 1905. This involves the abolition of five stations, of which two, Haraiya and Rudhauli, will be maintained as outposts, the others being Barakoni, Chhapia, and Budhabandh. In place of the latter and Barakoni a new station is to be built probably at Bardand. There will be then 22 police-stations with an average area of 125 square miles and an average population of 83,900 persons. It is not proposed to group the circles by tahsils in every case, as the irregularity of the boundaries sometimes render this impossible. Under this scheme there will be stations at Domariaganj, Tilakpur, Dhebarua, and Misraulia, whither the station is again to be transferred from Intwa, in the Domariaganj tahsil; at Bansi, Bankata, Uska, Chilia, and Lotan in the Bansi tahsil; at Chhaoni, Captainganj, Parasrampur and Paikaulia in tahsil Haraiya; at Basti, Sonhan, Kalwari and Bardand in tahsil Basti; and at Khalilabad, Mahuli, Dhanghata, Mehndawal and Dudhara in the Khalilabad tahsil.

Police force. The distribution of the police force in 1906 is shown in the appendix;* but this again will be modified with the introduction of the new scheme. The force at present consists of the district superintendent, two inspectors, 41 sub-inspectors, 40 head constables and 261 men, including the civil reserve. There is also

* Appendix, Table XVI.

an armed police force of 113 men of all ranks under a European inspector; the town police of 66 men, maintained for the protection of the towns of Basti, Mehndawal, Biskohar, Uska and the *nazul* bazars of Dubaulia, Hainsar and Bakhira; 3,161 men of the rural police, and 58 road *chaukidars*. Under the proposed rearrangement the regular civil police will consist of 38 sub-inspectors, 38 head constables and 303 men. At present there is a policeman for every 5½ square miles of area and every 3,481 inhabitants; the cost of the force amounts to Rs. 66,876 annually, of which Rs. 63,684 are debited to provincial revenues and the remainder is defrayed from local funds.

Village police. The village *chaukidars* are distributed among 7,623 villages. They are paid out of the ten per cent. cess at a yearly cost of about Rs. 1,08,500. It is only since 1897, however, that the *chaukidars* have all received cash wages. Formerly the system in force was that known as *goraiti*, the *goraits* being watchmen appointed by the *zamindars* to protect their villages, and remunerated by means of a *jagir* or grant of land. In most cases this grant was fixed at five *bighas*. As also was the case in Oudh, the system became more and more unsatisfactory, as the *goraits* were independent of the authorities and entirely under the thumb of the landholders. Gradually a force of *chaukidars* paid by Government out of a six per cent. cess was introduced, and the *goraits* became subordinate to them. In 1892 a regular scheme was framed for placing a certain number of *goraits* under each *chaukidar* and for thus bringing them under proper control. This plan failed of success, for the not unnatural result was that the *gorait* soon became the drudge of the police instead of the servant of the landowner, and was finally declared to be a village policeman under Act XVI of 1873. The *zamindars* were no longer willing to continue the grants of lands, and frequent disputes occurred; till at last cash payment was substituted and the *jagirs* were resumed and assessed to revenue.

Crime. In a district in which the great bulk of the population is agricultural, and which contains no towns of any size, and only a small proportion of hereditary criminals, it is but natural to find that the magisterial work is on the whole light. The most prevalent forms of crime consist in petty thefts,

burglaries, and small agricultural riots. Tables will be found in the appendix showing the returns for the more important offences during recent years, and these are sufficiently illustrative of the state of the district.* Dacoities are rare, and when they occur are usually of a mild character, and in most instances traceable to wandering gangs. On the other hand, the proximity of the Nepal border affords a ready refuge for cattle thieves, as the cumbrous machinery of the Extradition Act has to be set working before the thief is surrendered by the Nepalese authorities, and if he happens to be a native of Nepal he stands a good chance of escaping punishment altogether. Murders, though relatively not numerous, are generally extremely complicated and difficult to work out in this district, demanding on the part of the police more detective skill than is usually obtainable. A constant obstacle to effective administration lies in the fact that many of the northern police circles have hitherto been practically cut off from the rest of the district in the rains, situated as they are in the middle of a rice swamp, which can only be traversed in many places by means of elephants or boats. As might be expected, the police in these circles show very small returns of crime; but the recent opening of the railway from Uska to Tulsipur will doubtless tend to more efficient supervision. The heaviest circles are those which have their headquarters at Basti, Bansi, Chilia, Uska and Chhaoni, but in none is the annual number of inquiries really large.

Infanticide.

For many years after the introduction of British rule the district bore an evil reputation, at any rate so far as the Rajput inhabitants were concerned, on account of the prevalence of infanticide. The existence of the crime was notorious, but Buchanan remarks that the influence of Government had already been felt in his time, to the extent that active murder had as a rule given place to the slower though equally sure process of starvation. It was not until 1856, however, that an active policy of interference was introduced. In that year Mr. Moore was deputed to enquire into the prevalence of female infanticide in these provinces, and a large portion of his report was devoted to the Benares division and the Basti district. In the latter 113 villages were found to

* Appendix, Tables VII and VIII.

be open to suspicion; but before any steps could be taken the mutiny broke out and that calamity was followed by a period of inaction. The question was again brought into prominence by the census of 1865, which forced the attention of Government to the disproportion existing between the sexes. Another special inquiry was then instituted, and Mr. Hobart, who was attached to the staff of the Basti district, was deputed in 1867 to undertake the work. His report gives in a concise form all the leading facts in connection with the practice in Basti, together with an elaborate analysis of the Rajput clans believed to be implicated. The returns showed 216 villages in which the crime was considered to have been more or less prevalent. Although no immediate action was taken, this report contributed not a little to the passing of Act VII of 1870, the first legislative measure on the subject since the commencement of British rule in northern India. The provisions of the Act necessitated a careful house-to-house enumeration in all Rajput villages which were in any way suspected, the crime in this district being practically restricted to that caste. This task was entrusted to Mr. R. Smeaton, and the results are recorded in his report on that subject dated the 15th of June 1871. Although there had been some improvement since the mutiny, due to closer police supervision and the warning which two official investigations had conveyed, it was eventually found necessary to proclaim 240 villages, in which girls formed but 25 per cent. of the minor population. A special police force was sanctioned, paid from rates imposed under the Act on the more guilty villages and clans. Foremost amongst the latter were the Surajbansis, of whose villages no fewer than 130 were proclaimed, the percentage of girls being but 23. Most of these villages lay in the Amorha pargana, in which the most stringent measures were found necessary. Next to them came the Gautams, who inhabited the adjoining pargana of Nagar. Under an elaborate system of registration and supervision, the returns soon began to show an improvement, and an exemption from the operations of the Act, first of families and then of whole villages, became possible. At the last census, among both the Surajbansis and Gautams more than 48 per cent. of females were enumerated, and in 1902 the last remaining village,

Paikaulia in pargana Basti West, was exempted; and it may now be asserted with some confidence that the crime in this district is extinct. Of the causes of infanticide, direct or indirect, it is hardly necessary to speak. There is no doubt that the large expenditure involved in the marriage of daughters furnished the chief motive; but time and education, resulting in the growth of civilizing influences, have combined with the wholesome effects of the Act to set public opinion against this inhuman practice.

Jail. The district jail stands at the southern extremity of the civil station of Basti and is under the management of the civil surgeon. The building, which is of the usual pattern, was erected soon after the formation of the district, and was completed in 1873. It is of the third class and provides accommodation for 480 prisoners, including that afforded by the hospital, the civil prison, and the lock-up for prisoners under trial; the maximum capacity for ordinary convicts being 337 males and 18 females. The average daily number of prisoners in 1905 was 255. The industrial occupations in this jail are similar to those found in other institutions of a like nature, the chief being the manufacture of bricks and tiles, oil-pressing, and cotton-weaving, mainly in the form of mats and carpets.

Excise. The history of excise in Basti presents few peculiar features. It appears that up to the year 1871 a monopoly for the manufacture and vend of country liquor was given within specified areas containing a fixed number of shops. A Government distillery was then started at Basti, from which all licensed vendors in the tract south of the Rapti were obliged to obtain their liquor on payment of a still-head duty. North of that river the old outstill system was maintained, with the object of preventing the illicit introduction of cheap liquor from Nepal. The results of this innovation do not seem to have been satisfactory. The spirit distilled was at first so weak that it could not bear the still-head rate of Re. 1-8-0 per gallon, and as a natural consequence illicit distillation was very prevalent. In 1874 there were only 125 retail shops against an average of 159 in the preceding five years; the fees for licenses had fallen from Rs. 3,783 to Rs. 3,258, and the amount of liquor issued had declined from 9,911 to 3,644 gallons. This startling decline led to special inquiries and closer

supervision, with the result that by 1880 much improvement had been effected. The district then contained 140 shops, and 18,566 gallons of liquor were issued to them from the distillery. This amount has only once being exceeded, in 1902-03, and though the revenue from country liquor has risen from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 80,000, the increase is due, not to greater consumption, but to enhanced duties. The annual figures for the last 15 years will be found in the appendix.* During this period the fluctuations have been very considerable, the proximate cause being, as usual, the prosperity of the people or the reverse. Still, even in the best years, the income from so large a district is comparatively small, and it would appear that in few parts of the United Provinces is the population less addicted to drink. In spite of a damp climate and the presence of a large low-caste element in the population, the annual incidence of revenue for country liquor averages only Rs. 295 per ten thousand inhabitants, as compared with an average of Rs. 1,049 for the United Provinces. The chief causes assigned for this state of affairs are the absence of large cities, the minute subdivision of property, and the consequent poverty of the people; but it is probable that the large number of *mahua* trees in the district furnish a more adequate reason, providing an inducement to illicit distillation which the people cannot resist. Much liquor is also undoubtedly brought into the distillery area from the outstill tract beyond the Rapti, and recently proposals have been made for the abolition of the latter system; it is probable that liquor will be imported into this area from the distillery, specially coloured and taxed with a low duty. There have been no important changes in administration of late years, at any rate since 1892, when the Basti distillery was closed. The liquor is now imported from the distilleries at Gorakhpur, Gonda, and Fyzabad.

Tari. The fermented liquor known as *tari* is extensively produced and consumed in the district, the *tar* or palmyra palm being very common. The income from this source is considerable, averaging over Rs. 6,550, for the ten years ending in 1905. This is derived from leases given to contractors in each tahsil for the extraction and sale of *tari*. The contractor has to make his own arrangements

* Appendix, Table XI.

with the proprietors of the trees, and also has to pay considerable sums to the Bhars and Pasis who are employed in extracting the juice; so that the profits are seldom large. An attempt was made for a few years to establish a tree tax, but this system required a special establishment and was found to be harassing and unprofitable, resulting in its recent abolition.

Hemp drugs. Although the spontaneous growth of wild hemp is to be found in abundance in the *kachhar* tract of Bansi and Domariaganj, it is never cultivated. The drug contractor has the right to collect wild hemp and to sell it free of duty within the district; but duty has been charged on exported drugs of this nature since October 1906. The right of importation and sale is given to a contractor on a three years' lease, and retail shops are maintained by the same agency after approval by the excise officer. The income from this source has averaged Rs. 13,600 during the past 15 years, and has recently risen to Rs. 20,000 annually; but at the same time there has been no increase in the total consumption, but rather the reverse. In former days the most popular form of the drug was that known as *ganja*, imported from Bengal, but of late years this has been largely displaced by *charas*, which in spite of the heavy duty levied on it, appears to be more popular as an intoxicant, and is doubtless more effective for the purpose. In 1894 the consumption of *ganja* was 1,163 *sers*, and that of *charas* 248 *sers*, while in 1904 the figures were 128 and 563 *sers* respectively. The average consumption for the ten years ending in 1906 was 455 *sers* of *ganja* and 486 *sers* of *charas;* the average incidence of receipts per ten thousand of the population for the same period was only Rs. 85 annually, so that the increasing taste for *charas* gives no cause for any anxiety.

Opium. Opium is largely cultivated in the district, and there are therefore few inducements to pay license fees for shops. The recorded consumption averages but 341 *sers* annually, and the income derived from license fees is only Rs. 800, nearly the smallest in the provinces. An attempt has been made to improve matters by putting the shops up to auction separately instead of giving one contractor a monopoly for the district; but so long as poppy cultivators are able to hold back a part of the produce of their fields, it is not to be expected that the

consumers will pay a much higher price for the satisfaction of obtaining the drug in a legal manner. The licensed vendors also damage their business by charging too high a price, with the result that purchasers, who cannot obtain it otherwise, prefer to buy opium from the Government treasuries, where the price is fixed and known.

Registration.

The registrar of the district is the Judge of Gorakhpur. Subordinate to him are five sub-registrars, who have offices at the head-quarters of each tahsil. From 1897 to 1906 the average annual receipts from these offices were Rs. 14,400, and the expenditure about Rs. 5,000. The heaviest work is done at the Basti and Bansi offices, and the least at Haraiya.

Stamps.

A table will be found in the appendix showing the annual receipts from stamps of all kinds for the last few years.* A comparison with the figures of 30 years ago shows an increase of 75 per cent. from this source of income. Thus in 1873 the total receipts were only Rs. 50,705 and in the following year Rs. 57,674, while in 1904-05 the aggregate was Rs. 1,40,315. The average of the last ten years has been Rs. 1,21,430, and the increase appears to be due mostly to litigation, reaching its climax in the year 1901, when the new tenancy legislation was about to be introduced. Nearly 60 per cent. of the total income is obtained from the sale of judicial stamps.

Income-tax.

Income-tax was first assessed under the Act of 1870, at the rate of six pies in the rupee on all profits exceeding Rs. 500 yearly; but this only remained in force for a short time, being abolished in 1872. Its place was to some extent taken by the license tax, which yielded about Rs. 17,000 annually, but under Act II of 1886 a regular income-tax was introduced, the main feature of this measure being that incomes obtained from agricultural sources were exempted. A table given in the appendix shows the total receipts for each year since 1895-96.† The tax is levied under parts I and IV of the Act, the former referring to salaries and pensions, and the latter to other sources of income. The average receipts under these heads for the ten years ending in 1906 was Rs. 26,360. The maximum was Rs. 33,781 in 1902-03, but in the following year they fell by about one-third owing to

* Appendix, Table XII. | † Appendix, Table XIII.

the exemption of incomes under Rs. 1,000. Another table shows the number of persons assessed under Part IV and the amount so realized in each of the five tahsils.* The latter is greatest in Bansi and least in Haraiya, but the total number of assessees is small, and there are no incomes rated at more than Rs. 10,000. As compared with other districts the incidence in Basti is almost the lightest in the United Provinces, amounting to no more than Rs. 12 per thousand of the population. This is not due, however, to any exceptional poverty among the people, nor to the absence of trade; but may be attributed to the fact that much of the business is done by branch firms whose headquarters are in other districts. Thus profits of more than a lakh of rupees earned in the district are assessed elsewhere. The opening of the railway extension from Uska to Tulsipur is already producing a distinct effect in stimulating traffic in the north of the district, and the assessments are likely to rise with the growth of new markets.

Post-office.

The development of the postal system in Basti differs in no way from the general history of that institution in the province of Agra, and it is needless to recapitulate the various steps by which a purely local concern became merged into a branch of imperial administration. At the present time the district contains 42 post-offices including the head office in the civil station at Basti. There are 14 sub-offices, from which the mails are distributed to the dependent branch offices. Of the latter five, located at Munderwa, Intwa, Dhebarua, Misraulia and Chhapra-ghat are still under the management of the district board, though this system is now to be abolished altogether. The process of absorption has been gradual, and since 1902 the offices at Chhapia and Dubaulia have been transferred to the imperial authorities; while in 1878 there were only ten imperial and 16 district post-offices. The postal work in Basti is not remarkably heavy, and exhibits no tendency towards a rapid development. In 1878 the total number of missives which reached Basti by post was 194,464, whereas in 1900 an actual decline was observed, the aggregate being 173,000. There are combined post and telegraph offices at Basti head office, Basti city, Uska and Naugarh, and railway telegraph offices at the various stations.

* Appendix, Table XIV.

Act XX towns.

There is no municipality in the district, and only 20 years ago no special arrangements were made for the watch and ward or even for the conservancy of the headquarters town. This, however, was due to the fact that the town of Basti is divided into several portions, which are quite separate and distinct. Near the railway station lies the old bazar, a straggling row of shops and houses; about a mile and a half to the west is the *pakka* bazar, which is inhabited by native officials and a few shopkeepers; and a mile further on comes the civil station. These three sites were in 1885 included as one town, to which the provisions of Act XX of 1856 were extended; but even when united the population is only 14,761. Biskohar in the Domariaganj tahsil, which used to be a more important trade centre than it is now, was brought under the same Act on the 16th of September 1872, and Mehndawal followed on the 14th of August 1880. The assessments in each case are determined in the first place by a committee of five residents, but are subject to modification by the collector. The town of Uska, which is composed of four bazars with a total population of 6,718, was declared an Act XX town under the same notification as Basti, on the 17th June 1885; but the income is obtained in quite a different way. Under section 66 of the Land Revenue Act (XIX of 1873) the Local Government was empowered to impose on the collection of sanctioned cesses such conditions as it thought fit regarding conservancy, police or other establishment connected with the bazar on account of which the cesses were levied. This power was used in the case of Uska, and an annual income of Rs. 2,200 collected from the proprietors with the Government revenue, has been thus obtained since the settlement of 1889. The Sanitation Act (II of 1892) is in force not only in the four towns already mentioned, but also in 14 villages which have a population of 2,000 or more. These comprise Bansi and Narkatha in the Bansi tahsil, Ganeshpur and Ajgaiba Jangal in Haraiya; Mahson, Kalwari, Pipra Gautam, Nagar and Rudhauli in the Basti tahsil; and Khalilabad, Bakhira, Maghar, Mahuli and Hariharpur in the Khalilabad tahsil. The provisions of the Act are only being enforced gradually and up to the present time action has been confined mainly to supervision of the water-supply with a view to avoiding pollution. Section 34 of the Police Act (V of

1861) is in force at Basti, Bansi, Khalilabad, Uska and Narkatha, having been applied first to Bansi in 1869 and in the last instance to Narkatha in 1893.

District Board.

The constitution of the district board dates from 1883, when it superseded the old district committee. The board consists of 21 members, of whom six hold their seats by virtue of their office and 15 are elected. The former include the collector and the five sub-divisional officers, while of the elected members five are returned annually, one from each tahsil, and hold office for three years. Up to the present the attendance of the non-official members at the board meetings has not proved satisfactory, the average being but four; and in few instances have they displayed much interest in the work of the board in their own tahsils. The income and expenditure under the main heads for each year since 1890 to 1891 will be found in the appendix.* The work is of the usual description, and comprises the management of the local roads and buildings, cattle-pounds, ferries and arboriculture, and the general superintendence of the medical and educational administration and veterinary work. Several of these subjects have been dealt with elsewhere, but it remains to mention education, perhaps the most important function of the board, and the working of dispensaries and cattle-pounds.

Education.

Education had hardly gained a footing in the district when the mutiny broke out, and destroyed what little good had resulted from the memorable despatch of 1854. Prior to that date public instruction had not existed, only a few schools were found in the district, and these were merely private and indigenous institutions in which the elements of Sanskrit and Persian were imparted to the children of the higher classes. With the restoration of order in 1859, *zila* and pargana visitors were sent round with instructions to start schools where possible or requisite, and of those existing the oldest are the schools at Sirsi, Bargaon and Gaighat, which date from 1859; while in the following year those at Sihtikar, Belhar Kalan, Khalilabad, Maghar, Deora, Nagar, and Utrawal came into existence. In 1860, too, the middle school at Hariharpur was originated, having had a longer career than any other. When the Basti district was formed

*Appendix, Table XV.

in 1865, there were 160 institutions and 5,635 students. The numbers continued to rise for some time, and in 1878 there were 229 schools, though the number of pupils was somewhat less; and in 1883, when education was entrusted to the newly constituted district board there were only 135 schools and 5,427 scholars. In 1895 the latter number had dropped to 3,648, but in the next year a more vigorous policy was introduced: indigenous schools were recognised and aided, while the existing state schools were roused from the condition of lethargy into which they had fallen. During the next three years the enrolment was doubled, and the subsequent progress has been well maintained, the number of students rising to 17,758 in 1905. The rate of progress is well illustrated in a table given in the appendix.* As in most districts, it has been found that a purely agricultural population is slow to grasp the advantages of education; but a change is coming over the scene, and the number of aided schools started by the people themselves without pressure from outside is a feature of the district; and as funds increase education will continue to spread.

Schools.

So far the increase has been confined almost wholly to primary education. The number of vernacular middle schools has only risen from five to eight since the formation of the district, and the number of students is still only 1,559. These schools are at Basti, Bansi, Haraiya, Halaur, Rudhauli, Mehndawal, Uska and Hariharpur. Another school of this description has recently been opened at Khalilabad. English education is practically non-existent, and in this respect Basti is more backward than any other district. The only recognised school where English is taught is the Basti Church Mission high school, which receives a grant of Rs. 135 per mensem from the district board, and has at present 161 boys on the roll. This school teaches up to the entrance standard, and answers the purposes of a *zila* school. A Government high school is now, however, to be established: the cost of building will be met by contribution, and for its maintenance a grant of Rs. 6,000 annually will be made from provincial funds. There is also an unrecognised English school at Bansi, which dates from 1865. Till 1877 it was aided by Government,

* Appendix, Table XVII.

but since that time it has been managed by the Raja at his own expense; it teaches up to the middle standard and has 65 boys on the roll. A list of all the schools, secondary and primary, showing their class and average attendance in 1905, will be found in the appendix. Female education started in 1866, with ten schools and 132 pupils; but little progress was made and the numbers rapidly declined. In 1902 there were but two such schools with 58 students; but by 1905 the numbers had grown to 21 schools and 440 pupils. There is a model school for girls at Basti, while the rest are for the most part aided institutions.

Literacy.

The returns of successive enumerations affords a fairly clear idea of the extent to which education has progressed during the past half century. In 1872 only 5,119 persons or ·342 per cent. of the total population were able to read and write. At the census of 1881 the number of literate males was 3·7 and of females ·06 per cent.; while ten years later the figures were four and ·08 per cent. respectively. At the last census 5·4 per cent. of the males and ·11 per cent. of the females were literate, and though both proportions are below the provincial average, they exhibit at any rate a considerable improvement. Basti differs from most districts in showing a higher proportion of literacy in the case of Hindus than of Musalmans: taking the males alone, we find that 5·73 per cent. of the former were able to read and write; while the corresponding figure for the Muhammadan population was only 3·96. The principal reason is that the latter are numerically few and that the bulk of them are of low caste and engaged in agriculture.

Dispensaries.

The district board has in its charge seven dispensaries; but the executive work is in the hands of the civil surgeon, who is also superintendent of vaccination. Subordinate to him are the assistant surgeon, a number of hospital assistants and compounders, as well as the menial staff attached to the various institutions. The most important hospital is the Basti headquarters dispensary, which employs an assistant surgeon with four compounders, and is under the direct care of the civil surgeon. The number of patients treated here was nearly 14,000 in 1904-05. The other board dispensaries are located at Bansi, Mehndawal, Domariaganj, Chandapar, Haraiya and Bhanpur; they together returned an

attendance of 70,000 persons in the same year. The Bansi and Mehndawal dispensaries are the oldest, and there was formerly another institution of the same nature at Birdpur; but this was closed in 1882, though it is now maintained as a private dispensary by the European proprietor. That of Domariaganj dates from 1890 and that at Haraiya from 1897. The dispensary at Chandapar owes its origin to Babu Shohrat Singh, who built and equipped it in 1891 at his own expense and then presented it to Government. Similarly the Bhanpur hospital was recently built by Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur. There is no special hospital for women, but many of them come to the ordinary dispensaries for treatment.

Nazul.

There is very little *nazul* property in the district, and of the small amount that exists almost the whole is managed by the magistrate and not by the district board. The largest plot consists of 317 acres at Basti, which was acquired by Government in 1867 in order to form the civil station for the new district. It includes not only the sites on which the houses are built, but also a fine *maidan* and enough of the surrounding land to prevent encroachment on the station. Besides this there are only 240 acres of *nazul* property in the district, though under the same head are included the bazars at Dubaulia, Bakhira and Hainsar, which were confiscated after the mutiny owing to the rebellion of their proprietors. The ownership of the attached villages, however, was conferred on loyalists, and only the bazar property and the right to collect dues were retained by Government. The latter are leased in the case of Dubaulia for Rs. 500 a year, of Bakhira for Rs. 170, and Hainsar for Rs. 177. The income thus obtained is partly spent on the local watch and ward and on the maintenance of a conservancy staff. Another bazar, at Belwa in pargana Amorha, was confiscated at the same time, but this has been entirely cut away by the Ghagra.

Cattle pounds.

The administration of the cattle-pounds was only transferred to the district board in 1898, having previously been in the direct charge of the magistrate. There are now 39 pounds scattered about the district and located at convenient centres. They are established wherever the undertaking is likely to prove profitable, and considerable sums are realized from this source;

a statement of the annual income derived from them is shown in the appendix.* These pounds are located at the five tahsil headquarters; at all the existing police-stations except Tilakpur and Kalwari; and at 15 of the larger villages. The last include Misraulia, Biskohar, Chaukhara, Khuniaon, Bhawaniganj and Ujania in the Domariaganj tahsil; Narkatha, Deora, Kalnakhor and Bargadua in tahsil Bansi; Ajgaiba in Haraiya; and Basti town, Gaighat, Nagar and Pipra in tahsil Basti.

* Appendix, Table XV.

CHAPTER V.

HISTORY.

The district forms part of the holy land of Buddhism, and for some years it was believed to contain the site of Kapilavastu, near which Gautama Buddha was born. This identification was first propounded by Mr. Carlleyle and accepted by Sir A. Cunningham, who believed that the ruins at Bhuila Dih, 18 miles north-west of Basti, represented the once sacred spot.* The identification was supported by a wealth of detail, and almost all the places mentioned by the Chinese pilgrims were supposed to be represented by mounds or other existing objects. It was, however, shown by Dr. Führer that the configuration of the site did not agree with the description given by the pilgrims.† In particular the name Hathikund, which was said to have been applied to a ditch by people at the present day, and was thought to be a reminiscence of the *hastigarta*, into which Buddha threw a dead elephant, was actually invented by Carlleyle himself. Coins of the Kushans, Sungas (?) of Ahichhatra, and other ancient coins were found here. Ruins of ancient brick buildings are to be seen in many places in the district, and are usually assigned by the people to the Bhars or Tharus. Among the sites so marked may be mentioned Amorha, Bakhira Dih, Barah Chhatra, a number of places round Bhuila, Bhari, Kathela, Khirnipur, Nagar, Rampur and Warai. These and others still await careful exploration. Ancient.

In 1898 Mr. W. C. Peppe excavated a stupa at Piprahwakot, near the Nepalese frontier, and discovered a large stone coffer, in which were a number of relic vessels, including two stone vases, one small stone casket, one large stone *lota*, and a crystal bowl containing bones, cut stones, and stars and other pieces of gold leaf. Round the rim of the lid of one of the vessels, now in the Indian Museum, is an inscription, the translation of which Piprahwa.

* Cunningham's Archæological Survey Reports, *XII*, 108 *et seq.*

† A. S. N. I., 1889, The Sharqi Architecture of Jaunpur, &c., p. 69.

has given rise to some controversy. The latest reading by Dr. Fleet explains it as commemorating the enshrining of relics of the kinsmen of Buddha, with their wives and children and unmarried sisters.* On palæographical evidence this record is probably the oldest specimen of Indian writing yet discovered, and may date back to 450 B.C. The topography of Buddhist India is still very uncertain, but the site of Kapilavastu is approximately fixed, owing to the discovery of the Asoka pillar at Padaria in the Nepalese Tarai, not far from the north-eastern corner of the district. This bears an inscription showing that it was erected at the Lumminigama or Lumbinigrama, where Buddha was born, and Kapilavastu cannot be far away.† Major Vost has suggested that Bhuila marks the site of Ramagrama or the ashes stupa, where the ashes of Buddha's funeral pyre were enshrined.

Mediæval.

Thus much do we know of the district in Buddhist times, when the country enjoyed some degree of civilization. This period was succeeded by an era of complete darkness, when the ancient towns disappeared and the former cultivation gave place to jungle. Tradition relates that the Bhars and Tharus then held sway, and the same story is to be found in most parts of the United Provinces. It has probably some substratum of truth, but more than this cannot be said, as no records exist to tell us in any certain form of the domination of these presumably aboriginal tribes.

The early Musalmans.

The mediæval history of Basti is indeed singularly barren, and practically not a single reference to the tract is to be found in the annals of the early Musalman historians. Consequently our sole source of information lies in the distorted legends of the Rajput chieftains, and the reconstruction of history is rendered mainly a matter of speculation. In this there is, after all, little surprising. The tract was remote and much of it was covered with forest. It lay beyond the recognised routes from the west to the east, and when the Sultans of Dehli or their armies passed through the old capital of Ajodhya on their way to Patna and the country of Bihar and Bengal, they journeyed thence by river or else kept further to the south by the old road through Jaunpur.

* J. R. A. S., 1906, p. 149, where other references are given.

† V. A. Smith and P. C. Mukherjee, *Antiquities in the Tarai.*

Beyond the Ghagra they never attempted to go. Even when Ghias-ud-din Tughlaq made his progress through Bahraich and Gonda and received the submission of the local Rajas on his march to Bengal, he seems to have omitted Basti and to have gone by river from Ajodhya.* The adventurous Firoz Shah, too, who took the same route, appears to have reached Lakhnauti by boat and to have avoided the perils of the forest.† One very probable reason for the absence of all mention of this tract is that Gorakhpur was probably under the influence, so far as any such influence existed here, of the independent Bengal Sultans, such as Shams-ud-din Firoz, whose growing power roused the jealousy of Ghias-ud-din Tughlaq. Ferishta informs us that the latter monarch came to the neighbourhood of Gorakhpur and there received the homage of the Rai, whoever he was, Sarnet or Bisen, adding the significant remark that he had not paid his tribute for a long period.‡ We know but little of these Bengal Sultans, and of that little their coins afford us the most reliable information. Through one or two historians have left a record of their exploits, there is no account of the most distant portion of their possible dominions.

The governors of Oudh.

Still it seems certain that some kind of a conquest was effected by the Musalmans, though the comparative insignificance of the Rajas probably secured them from unpleasant attentions on the part of the paramount power. That Basti formed part of the large province of Oudh cannot be doubted. It was too far from Bahraich and too near Ajodhya to be otherwise. Qutb-ud-din Aibak first subdued Oudh as a whole, and his conquest was confirmed by Muhammad Bakhtiar Khilji, aided perhaps by Hisam-ud-din Ughlabak, about 1200 A.D.§ The former added Bihar to the Sultan's kingdom, and subdued the Hindu nobles—a task which was again performed by Kaimaz Rumi. Nazir-ud-din Mahmud, the eldest and most capable of the sons of Altamsh, became governor of Oudh in 1226, and is said to have completely crushed all resistance on the part of the Bhars, who doubtless included all the Rajputs of the country.|| In the days of Balban the hold of the Sultan on the province was firm; but at his death

* E. H. I., III, 234. | † *ibid*, 294. | ‡ *ibid*, VI, 224. | § *ibid*, II, 224, 301, 305. || *ibid*, 319.

in 1286 his son, Bughra Khan, took Bengal for himself, while Dehli was held by the latter's son, Kaiqubad. When the reconciliation took place between father and son, the scene was laid at Ajodhya, probably the furthest eastern outpost of the Dehli power. In 1321 Malik Tigin, the governor, was slain by the Hindus, who do not seem to have been in so complete a state of submission as the Muhammadan historians would have us believe; but his successor, Ain-ul-mulk, held not only Oudh but Jaunpur.* The Tughlaq dynasty paid but little attention to this portion of their realm, and this seems to have afforded an occasion for the development of the Hindu principalities.

Early Hindu inhabitants.

Mr. Hooper, in his settlement report,† arrives at the conclusion that before the advent of the present leading Rajput clans, there were Hindus in Basti and Hindu Rajas, and that these Hindus had completely supplanted the savage and aboriginal tribes, Bhars, Tharus, Doms and Domkatars, whom general tradition declares to have been the early rulers, at least after the fall of the ancient kingdoms and the disappearance of the Buddhist faith. These Hindus included the Bhuinhars, who appear to be autochthonous; the Sarwaria Brahmans, whose very name indicates their indigenous origin; and, above all, the Bisens, whose principality of Majhauli dates by common agreement from time out of mind. It is shown, as will appear later, that even by the time of Akbar the principal landholders of the district were Bisens and Bais, neither of whom make any pretence to a foreign origin. Mr. Hooper would like to identify the Domkatars with the Bhuinhars, as the people who for a long time offered a successful resistance to the Sarnet adventurers; and if we go a step further and affirm that the Bhars merely represent the present Bais and other Hindu castes and tribes that have not been able to attain Chhatri rank, we can afford to leave the Tharus and Doms in the north, and thus obtain a fairly definite idea of the state of Hindu society as it existed before the arrival of the true Rajputs from the west, where the pressure of the Musalman invasion first made itself felt and caused that extensive migration of the old ruling races into Oudh and the eastern districts of the United Provinces.

*E. H. I., III, 246. | † *q. v.*, p. 32.

The various clans of Rajputs did not by any means arrive in Basti at the same time. Indeed their migration was spread over a considerable period, the first arrivals probably reaching these parts about the middle of the 13th century, while the latest did not come until near the close of the 16th. The first of the newcomers appear to have been the Sarnets, who claim to have been originally of Surajbansi extraction and to have first established themselves in Gorakhpur and the east of Basti about 1275. Very little is known of their origin, as already narrated in a previous chapter; but it is certain that they are immigrants, and also that they dispossessed the old rulers of the country round Gorakhpur, and afterwards established the great principality of Maghar, now represented by the estate of the Bansi Raja. Tradition alleges that they ejected the Domkatars; but of the latter nothing whatever is known, unless we accept their identification with the Bhuinhars. Nor is there any more certain information as to the origin of the Solankhi Rajputs, who colonised the modern pargana of Bansi West and founded the principality which long survived under the name of Kathela. They appear to have been contemporary with the Sarnets, by whom they were eventually conquered, their territory being united with that of Bansi. These descendants of the old Rajas are now known as Kathelwars, and are to be found in Rasulpur and in the neighbouring parts of the Gonda district. Their Rajput origin seems incontestible; though a local tradition affirms that they were Bhars, and there is even the story that they were the very Bhars who were driven out of Amorha by the Surajbansis. The anachronism is obvious, but it serves to illustrate the scantiness of our real knowledge about the early history of Basti. Tradition is, however, far more certain in the case of the Kalhans, who appear to have a genuine and connected history. They are branches of the great house which ruled at Khurasa in Gonda, and was established about 1375 by two brothers named Sahaj Singh and Tej Singh, who probably accompanied a force of invading Musalmans. The kingdom of Khurasa appears to have become very powerful and to have exercised dominion over a large tract of country. The fortunes of the Kalhans reached their climax in the days of Achal Singh, the story of whose

The Rajputs.

overthrow, which occurred about 1544, will be found in the Gonda volume.* A younger branch of this line established themselves in pargana Basti, while his direct descendants gained the large tract known as Rasulpur Ghaus, their territories marching with those of the Solankhis on the north and the Sarnets on the east. South of the Kalhans' country lay Nagar, ruled by a Gautam Raja. Of the advent of this clan we know nothing; but tradition states that the Gautams ousted the Bhars, or else the Domkatars, 23 generations ago, killing the local Raja named Rahila. Whether he was a Bhar may be doubted, for with equal probability he may have been a Bhuinhar, Bais or a Bisen; he seems to have been a real person, as his name is preserved in that of a village called Rahilwara, while Rihlapara, the former name of pargana Nagar, is probably but a variant of the word. Pargana Mahuli for a long time formed part of the great Bisen territory; but their hold appears to have been but weak, as towards the end of the 16th century they were displaced by the Surajbansis, whose history has been already given. It is possible, on the other hand, that the early proprietors of Mahuli were not Bisens, but an allied clan called Mahsuiyas or Rajputs of Mahson. Several of the present landowners derive their title from the Mahsuiyas, notably the Bais of Ramnagar, a very ancient holding. Their fort was at Kawalgarh, and the name curiously suggests resemblance to Kaulbil, the reputed Bhar Raja who was overthrown by the Surajbansis. The only other clan of which any mention need be made is that of the Chauhans, who held Butwal and Palpa to the north of the district. The purity of their descent is, however, extremely doubtful, and though they claim to have come from Rajputana in the 14th century, it seems far more probable that they are of similar origin to those Chauhans from the hills who held the neighbouring estate of Tulsipur in the Gonda district.

Amorha.

In the Amorha pargana we find, not Rajputs, but Kayasths as the ruling race. The founder of their fortunes was one Rai Jagat Singh, a warlike scribe who is said to have been governor of Oudh in early days and to have had his headquarters at Sultanpur. One tradition states that he proceeded against the Dom

* Gazetteer of Gonda, p. 141.

Raja of Domariadih in Gonda, whose power had led him to commit the unpardonable offence of demanding the daughter of a Brahman to wife; that Jagat Singh overthrew the Dom in 1376 and in reward obtained Amorha; and that with him came the founder of the Kalhans family, and also one Nawal Sah, a Bandhalgoti of Amethi in Sultanpur, from whom spring the Bandhalgotis of Mahadewa in Gonda. This may be true, though many variations of the story are found, Bhars taking the place of Doms, while one account ascribes Jagat Singh to the reign of Akbar. The Kayasths have long been dispossessed, and it is therefore probably impossible to recover their true history. The story of the overthrow of the Dom Ugarsen is also told by the Kalhans; and it bears a striking resemblance to the traditional victory of the Sarnets over the Domkatars, while almost similar tales are to be found in the annals of nearly every Rajput clan in Oudh. There is no doubt, however, of the fate of the Kayasths. As narrated in Chapter III, they were gradually ousted by another family of Surajbansis, in spite of the device of embracing Islam adopted by one of the Kayasths in the hope of obtaining imperial assistance. And thus it came about that by the time when the Mughal dynasty was established in northern India, almost all Basti was held by Rajput clans, with the possible exception of a portion of Maghar, which was held in subjection by the Musalman garrison.

The Jaunpur kings.

About 1394 Khwaja-i-Jahan took possession of Oudh as his feof, and gaining control of all the country between the Ganges and Bihar, assumed the royal state in Jaunpur. The eastern kingdom thus formed lasted till the days of Bahlol Lodi, who reunited Jaunpur with Dehli. Oudh was given to the famous leader, Kala Pahar Farmuli, who held it on behalf of Bahlol and his successor, Sikandar Lodi. His charge doubtless included Basti; but we find no references to this district, save possibly in the remark that the Sultan spent a month hunting in the vicinity of Ajodhya.* When Ibrahim Lodi was defeated by Babar at Panipat, the Mughal invader sent Mirza Kamran with Amir Quli Beg to take possession of Oudh, and the Afghan nobles retired to Patna. In 1528 Babar reached Ajodhya, and

* E. H. I., IV, 461.

there built his mosque; but the conquest of the east was far from perfect, and when Sher Shah turned his victorious arms against Humayun, all the country east of Kanauj was held by the Afghans. The latter do not, however, appear to have exercised any sort of control in Basti, save in a single instance. This exception was the Pathan Raja of Utraula in Gonda, Ali Khan Kakar, who is said to have acquired his estate by force of arms and to have been a constant rebel against the Mughal power. His influence was only felt on the western borders, where he proved a thorn in the side of the Kalhans, reducing their possessions to small proportions, though the conquests of his successors were even more extensive.

Akbar.

Practically all that we know of Basti history is derived from the chronicles of Fyzabad and Gonda, which in either case are far more complete, the one as containing the capital of the province, and the other as possessing a few powerful chieftains whose doings kept them more prominently before the eyes of the outside world. Sher Shah, when he defeated Humayun, became master of all Hindustan, and holding both Oudh and Bihar, must have exercised control over Basti at the same time. He did not, however, leave any impression on this outlying tract, nor is any mention made of the district when in 1559 Ali Quli Khan, Khan Zaman, reconquered Oudh for Akbar and took up his headquarters at Jaunpur.* In 1565 Khan Zaman rebelled, and on the approach of the imperial forces sent his brother, Bahadur Khan, to stir up rebellion in Sarwar, the country beyond the Sarju.† This may have been Basti, and if so, it is the first specific reference to the district. Mir Muizz-ul-mulk was despatched thither against Bahadur Khan and Sikandar, another of the rebel leaders, and a battle ensued, though the locality appears to have been further to the east.‡ A peace was concluded, but shortly afterwards Khan Zaman again rebelled, and fled beyond the Ghagra to the foot of the hills. Akbar sent a force across the river in pursuit, but nothing was achieved and it retired.

other officers of Akbar's army, but escaped into Bengal. The army was then recalled, but it seems clear from the local tradition that the expedition had a marked effect on the country. The local chieftains were compelled to acknowledge the emperor as their ruler; the Rajas of Majhauli, Satasi and Maghar were severely punished, and garrisons were established at Gorakhpur and Maghar. One result was that the Sarnet Raja abandoned the latter place, and took up his residence at Bansi. The tradition regarding Jágat Singh of Amorha has already been mentioned; and it is quite conceivable that his acquisitions in the district date from this campaign.

Akbar's administration.

Raja Todar Mal had other work to do in Basti, for to him is credited the settlement of the land revenue as set forth in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. This work is of great value, as providing a record, whatever its reliability, of the conditions then prevailing. Basti lay wholly in the province or *subah* of Oudh, but was divided between two *sarkars* or divisions. The *mahal* or pargana of Ambodha, the modern Amorha, belonged to the *sarkar* of Oudh, while the rest formed part of Gorakhpur. Amorha was then held by Bais, who contributed a force of 30 horse and 700 foot, and paid a revenue of 1,298,724 *dams* on 282,037 *bighas* of cultivation. The latter figure is almost certainly wrong, and should probably be divided by ten, as the incidence is far too low. Most of the Gorakhpur parganas admit of ready identification, though one or two present difficulties. The present Rasulpur was made up of the combined *mahals* of Rasulpur and Ghaus, which paid 622,030 *dams* on 4,200 *bighas* of cultivation, the latter again being obviously a mistake. The *zamindars* were Sombansis, and as the same name occurs in Basti, we may safely take it to mean Kalhans; the local levies were 500 infantry. The *mahal* of Kathela represents Bansi west: it had 900 *bighas* of cultivation and a revenue of 40,000 *dams*; there was a brick fort at headquarters, and the landowners, who are described as Bansis—a term which conveys no meaning, though Bais or Bisens have been suggested—contributed the astonishing number of 300 horse and 2,000 foot. The parganas of Bansi and Maghar were included in the double *mahal* of Maghar and Ratanpur, in which ...assessed at 1,352,585 *dams*; the local contingent

was 2,000 infantry, and the landholders are set down as Bais and Bisens, no notice being taken of the Sarnets. Mahuli bore its present name. There was a brick fort at the capital, as also at Maghar, and the Bisen *zamindars* paid 618,256 *dams* on a cultivated area of 2,523 *bighas*, contributing 2,000 foot soldiers. Nagar was then called Rihlapara, and was also owned by Bisens, though the Gautams must have appeared by this time : the *mahal* contained 16,012 *bighas* under the plough, paying 425,845 *dams*; there was a brick fort at headquarters and the local force was 20 cavalry and 300 footmen. The pargana of Basti seems to represent the old Mandwa, a Sombansi property, held at a revenue of 452,321 *dams* on 1,910 *bighas* of cultivation; it supplied 20 horse and 500 infantry. There remains Binayakpur, of which only a small portion is left in this district. This was held by Surajbansis, and its 13,857 *bighas* were assessed at 600,000 *dams*; the military contingent was very large, amounting to 400 horse and 3,000 foot. It is somewhat strange that no elephants are mentioned as available in either Basti or Gorakhpur, for at present they are very numerous.

The revenue.

It has been pointed out in Chapter II how impossible it is to establish an accurate comparison between the present and the past, owing to the changes of boundary. Part of Maghar and most of Binayakpur have been lost, while a further obstacle is the indubitable inaccuracy of some of the *Ain-i-Akbari's* figures. If we include the whole of Maghar and omit Binayakpur, we obtain an approximation to the existing area, but the incorrectness of the returns cannot be adjusted so easily. If the cultivated area of Amorha be altered in accordance with probability, taking 28,203 *bighas*, but abandoning any attempt to rectify that of Rasulpur and Basti, we thus obtain a cultivated area of 49,882 acres and a revenue of Rs. 1,06,248. This gives an incidence of Rs. 2·13 per acre—a sum which is quite incredible, as the purchasing power of the rupee must then have been at least five times as great as at the present time. If the revenue be correct, the cultivated area is undoubtedly far too small; and indeed it is absurd to suppose that in a district of this size, large though the area of jungle may then have been, the proportion of the land under cultivation was less than three per cent.

The later Mughals.

After the death of Akbar the references to Basti in contemporaneous history again become extremely meagre. The attention of the imperial authorities was withdrawn from this remote corner of the empire, with the result that the central power soon ceased to be felt. Within a short time indeed the impotence of the Musalmans was abundantly illustrated. In 1610 Gorakhpur was bestowed by Jahangir on Afzal Khan, governor of Patna, but apparently his rule was resented by the Hindus, and a simultaneous attack was made on the garrisons at Gorakhpur and Maghar by Raja Basant Singh of Satasi and the Raja of Bansi. The attempt succeeded in both cases and the troops were ejected; with the result that the local chieftains were left undisturbed, and almost all of them withheld the payment of tribute. This state of affairs continued for about half a century, but with the accession of Aurangzeb the vigilant eye of the ruler was no longer withheld from this part of the country. About 1680 Qazi Khalil-ur-Rahman was appointed *chakladar* of Gorakhpur, and forthwith marched with a strong force from Ajodhya to take possession of his charge. The Rajas of Amorha and Nagar, whose estates lay nearest to the capital, and who had but recently acquired power, promptly tendered their submission, and thus escaped molestation. The governor then proceeded to Maghar, which he again garrisoned, compelling the Raja of Bansi to retire to his fortress on the banks of the Rapti. The town of Khalilabad was then founded, and named after Khalil-ur-Rahman, whose tomb may be seen at Maghar; and some sort of road was constructed between Gorakhpur and Ajodhya. The presence of the Musalman troops produced an immediate impression; for the revenue, which had hitherto been but nominally promised, was for a time collected with some regularity. The change was, however, only temporary; for though Bahadur Shah visited the district of Gorakhpur towards the close of the 17th century, changing the name of Gorakhpur to Muazzamabad, the decay of the imperial power after the death of Aurangzeb did not fail to be without effect.

Rise of the Rajas.

The real rulers of the country were the Rajas, who at this time rose to the height of their power. It was they alone who made grants of land and remissions of revenue, and each chieftain

was practically independent within his own territory. They maintained large forces of armed men, and by their means made wars on their neighbours at will. By force of arms the Surajbansis gained possession of Amorha, while their kinsmen in Mahuli and the Gautams in Nagar similarly extended their estates at the expense of the weaker *zamindars* on their borders. In the same manner, but on a much greater scale, the energy and enterprise of the Sarnet Rajas of Bansi enabled them to make large additions to their dominions. The first victim was the Solankhi Raja of Kathela, whose lands were annexed outright. The Bansi Raja then sought a quarrel with the Kalhans, killing Raja Kesri Singh, as the story goes, by treachery, and then seizing the whole of Rasulpur Ghaus. The Sarnets thus became the predominant power in the north of the district, and their only rivals of any importance were the Chauhans of Binayakpur. Long wars, in which the former were often worsted, took place between the houses of Butwal and Bansi, and in consequence a large area of land was laid waste, comprising the north of pargana Bansi East and the Basti portion of Binayakpur. Eventually it appears that the Sarnets gained the upper hand, for at some unknown date the Butwal Raja was driven back, and pargana Bansi assumed its present dimensions.

Oudh rule. A great and far-reaching change came over the scene in 1721. In that year Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-mulk, the Wazir of the empire, became governor of Oudh in addition to Agra, and his energy and undoubted talents soon combined to render him independent and virtually an uncontrolled monarch. The condition of affairs in Basti at that time may be briefly recapitulated. Bansi and Rasulpur were held by the Sarnet Raja; Binayakpur by the Chauhan chieftain of Butwal; Basti by the Kalhans ruler; Amorha by the Kayasth Raja, who could ill support his authority against the increasing power of the Surajbansi invaders; Nagar by the Gautams; Mahuli by the older line of Surajbansis; while Maghar alone was under the direct control of the Nawab's deputy, who was strengthened by the Musalman garrison. Saadat Khan turned his earliest attention to the local Hindu Rajas, reduced their authority, and made them acknowledge at least a nominal allegiance to the governor. It would

appear that in the southern parganas the tribute due to the head of the state was rendered with some regularity; and when Fyzabad became the temporary capital of Oudh its proximity made recusancy dangerous, if not impossible. But things were different in the north, where the Rajas, trusting in the sure defence of dense forests and unfordable rivers, were able to defy the central power with some sense of impunity. Here a fresh source of trouble arose from the turbulence of the Banjaras, who betook themselves to plunder and forays throughout the submontane tract. They found employment under Tilak Sen, the head of the younger line of Butwal, and such disturbance was caused by this combination that in 1725 the Nawab Wazir sent a force into the north of Basti and Gorakhpur to assert his authority. The effect was but temporary, for on the withdrawal of the army, Tilak Sen reappeared, and his inroads wrought such damage that much of the country became desolate and relapsed into jungle. This guerilla warfare was continued by his son, and in 1750 Safdar Jang, who had succeeded his uncle in the charge of the province, sent Qasim Ali Khan with a large army to restore order in Gorakhpur, where the garrison was in a state of mutiny, and thence to march into Butwal. A long struggle ensued in that principality, and peace was not secured for twenty years. Tilak Sen's son was reduced to submission, and the Raja took possession of his conquests, eventually paying a visit to Shuja-ud-daula at Fyzabad; but it is doubtful whether he ever was weak enough to pay any revenue into the Nawab's treasury. It is significant that hardly a village recalls by its name the memory of the Oudh *régime*. The Rajas soon found that they could resume their old position, and remained irregular tributaries rather than subjects. The *chakladars* or revenue collectors had almost invariably to depend for the collection of the government demand on the favour and complaisance of the local chieftains, and in very few instances were able to realize from the tenants direct. The Rajas were free to make war on their neighbours at will; and the practice was not only tolerated, but even encouraged. Thus about 1765 Shuja-ud-daula lent Daljit of Bansi a force with which to attack his elder brother, resulting in the disastrous fight at Panghata-ghat;

and again in 1777 the son of Daljit was allowed to obtain the assistance of Butwal, and so to defeat and slay a rival but rightful claimant to the principality. The last step was the assumption of control over the revenue by the Rajas themselves resulting from the system of farming. This, under the circumstances, was perhaps the most desirable course, for it saved their estates from ruin and at all events induced the local chieftains to keep on good terms with the *nazim*, who had his headquarters at Gorakhpur.

Major Hannay.

After his unhappy experience at Buxar in 1784, the Nawab Wazir Shuja-ud-daula endeavoured to set his house in order. He placed Gorakhpur and Bahraich in the charge of Major Hannay, an English officer in the Oudh service, and this energetic gentleman soon made the effects of his vigorous personality felt far and wide. He maintained a force sufficient to coerce the Rajas, and thus strengthened the hands of the revenue collectors to such an extent that a regular land-tax was imposed and actually realized. But not, however, without oppression, for his rule is still remembered in Basti, and the "*Major Sahib-ki amaldari*" was long a household word; old people tell how their fathers were obliged to abandon their villages on account of the excessive revenue he imposed, and there can be no doubt that vast areas of land went out of cultivation during this period. How far Hannay was directly responsible cannot be said; Burke accused him of having done incalculable mischief, and Mill, endorsing his opinion, states that the Major laid waste a vast tract of country which formerly was rich and flourishing.* It seems more probable, however, that it was the presence of his force behind them that enabled the *chakladars* to give full play to their greed, and that Major Hannay's chief consideration was the collection of the sum due, no matter what the means employed by his underlings. The system adopted was simple: the right of collection was leased out to contractors, who rack-rented and pillaged the people to an almost inconceivable extent, and then not unfrequently made matters worse by absconding with their ill-gotten gains.

* History of India, IV, 313.

Cession of the district.

What with the Banjaras in the north and the government officials elsewhere, Basti was ultimately reduced to a most unhappy plight. In one year alone nearly 400,000 cultivators are said to have fled from Basti and Gorakhpur, and those who remained only cultivated by stealth for fear of oppression. The jungle had spread to an amazing extent, and the north was completely deserted. The country was infested with robbers, and the local chieftains had imitated the example set them from above, laying the country waste by means of their armed retainers. The only redeeming feature in the situation was that the country nobility still held their own. Scarcely a family of note who had possessed any property before the days of Saadat Khan had become extinct or been deprived of its lands during the period of Musalman control; and this fact proved of the greatest importance when the day of reckoning arrived. In 1801 the arrears of subsidies, due under various treaties for the use of English troops, had reached an amount which Saadat Ali Khan was wholly unable to pay; and to extinguish the debt the Nawab Wazir surrendered Gorakhpur and much other territory to the East India Company.*

Early British rule.

The charge of Gorakhpur was entrusted to Mr. Routledge as collector. His district comprised not only the vast stretch of country which is included in the modern Basti, but also the parganas of Nawabganj, Mahadewa, Babhnipair and Mankapur in Gonda, the Nepal Tarai as far as the foot of the hills, and the distant pargana of Khairagarh in the modern Oudh district of Kheri. The tract was far too great to admit of effective supervision, and the difficulties at first experienced were numerous. The Oudh officials, who were maintained in their old posts, were found to be utterly untrustworthy; the district was for the most part a barren wilderness, and such cultivation as remained was alleged to be revenue-free; while the Oudh troops were dismissed with great trouble, having had no pay for a year, and endeavouring to make up their arrears by indiscriminate plunder of the country through which they passed on their way from Gorakhpur to Lucknow. In the previous chapter some attempt has been made to show how order was gradually evolved out of chaos in

* Aitchison's Treaties, Vol. II, p. 61.

the matter of the land revenue; and in order to assist the process a force of 360 *sibandis* was raised in March 1802 by Captain Malcolm McLeod. The obstinate attitude assumed by the local chieftains, who now realized that an era of stable government was before them, led to a step which was afterwards found necessary in Oudh, all their forts, save those of the Basti and Amorha Rajas, being razed to the ground. By the end of 1802 the impossibility of administering Khairagarh from Gorakhpur had become manifest, and a European officer was deputed to that remote post.

The Nepal war.

The progress effected in a short time was indeed marvellous; but it was long before the forest tracts of the north could be reduced to order. The Raja of Butwal refused to allow the establishment of police posts within his domains, and this nearly led to an armed collision. In 1804 his revenue payments were in arrears, and in the next year he was imprisoned; but this left the way open for a new source of vexation, as the Nepalese swarmed over the border and took possession of a large belt of country lying within the British frontier. They practically annexed Butwal and then Sheoraj, a tract on the left bank of the Arrah, to the north of the present Domariaganj tahsil. When the Butwal Raja was released from prison, he fell into the hands of the Gurkhas, who inveigled him to Kathmandu, where he was murdered. His lands were made over to Nepal by his family, who retired to Gorakhpur with a pension. Efforts were made as early as 1806 to induce the Nepalese to give up the usurped territory; but the negotiations fell through, and the invaders remained undisturbed. In 1811 they became more aggressive, entering Gorakhpur; a boundary commission was appointed in 1813, but without result, as the two sides came to a totally different opinion as to its conclusions. In the beginning of 1814 Lord Moira ordered the Gurkhas to quit both Butwal and Sheoraj which were thereupon occupied by the British troops. Police-stations were established, but in May they were attacked by the Gurkhas and the occupants slain. The history of the war that ensued belongs more properly to Gorakhpur and has been given in the volume on that district. The result was that the Tarai was conquered after protracted fighting, and then given back to

the Gurkhas, not long after the treaty of Sigauli, ratified on the 4th of March 1816. In the same year the district was further reduced in area, by restoring to Oudh, in exchange for Handia in Allahabad, the Gonda parganas given up in 1801.* The Nepalese war, however, had for the time a very marked effect on the internal condition of Basti It exercised a strong retarding influence on the peaceful development of the district, and undid much of the good that had been achieved in the past fourteen years. It has already been narrated in recounting the fiscal history how lawlessness became rampant, and how, in March 1815, the Bansi tahsil was attacked, in spite of the presence of a British garrison entrenched at Lotan, a few miles away; and how the dacoits at Maghar captured a load of treasure. Order was not restored by the close of the war, for in May 1816 the Bansi tahsil was again attacked by *siyar-marwas* or jackal-killers, with the result that seven policemen lost their lives and six others were wounded; and in the following January over Rs. 6,000 of treasure was plundered by gang-robbers at Captainganj. With this occurrence, however, the disturbances appear to have ceased; and from that time onward Basti enjoyed peace and quiet till the general conflagration of 1857.

The mutiny.

The part played by Basti in the great rebellion was generally insignificant. The district still formed but an outlying portion of Gorakhpur, possessing no civil station of its own; and consequently its history, save for a few detached incidents, cannot be separated from that of Gorakhpur on the one hand and those of Gonda and Fyzabad on the other. It is to the history of Gorakhpur, therefore, that reference must be made for a general view of the course of events during that momentous period in this part of the country; and here it will be sufficient to note in order those episodes which took place within the borders of the present district. The latter fall into two main divisions: the first relating to the actual outbreak and the attitude adopted by the inhabitants; and the second dealing with the various military operations which were carried on within the confines of the district under the general scheme for the subjugation and pacification of the country.

* Aitchison's Treaties, Vol. II, p. 137.

The outbreak in Basti.

At the time of the outbreak there was a small detachment of the 17th N. I. at Basti for the protection of the opium treasury at that place, and two companies of the same corps were at Gorakhpur. Their headquarters were at Azamgarh, and there the regiment mutinied on the 5th of June 1857. This event at once warned the authorities at Gorakhpur of what might be shortly expected; but nothing definite occurred till the rising at Fyzabad on the 8th of June. One party of six fugitives from that place left their boats and proceeded by way of Amorha to Captainganj, where they were warned by the tahsildar to avoid Basti; they then turned towards the north, but at Mahua Dabar in pargana Basti West they were treacherously killed on the 10th by the Musalman inhabitants, the only member of the party to escape being Sergeant Busher of the artillery. He was captured by Babu Bali Singh, who kept him in confinement for ten days, in spite of strong remonstrances from Mr. Cooke of Basti and the collector of Gorakhpur; he was eventually rescued by Mr. Peppe, who had been made a deputy magistrate for the time, and who proceeded to Captainganj with an escort of the 12th Irregular Horse from Gorakhpur. Mr. Peppe then burned Mahua Dabar to the ground, and while at Captainganj rescued Colonel Lennox with his wife and daughter, who had been sheltered by Muhammad Hasan, a former official of the Oudh Government. Another future rebel was Mirza Ali Hasan, who similarly saved the lives of two customs patrols near Amorha. Mr. Peppe got away with his party, but in the meantime events were following fast. The detachment at Basti plundered the treasury and marched off, but without injuring the few European residents; the latter were protected by the Rani of Basti and her agent, Har Dayal Misra, who kept them for some days at her house, and when the danger became imminent, sent them in safety to Gorakhpur. The Rani's conduct throughout the rebellion was most loyal, and this was the more remarkable, as she was the niece of Kunwar Singh of Jagdispur. The other landholders failed, with a few exceptions, to follow her example. The Raja of Nagar and his kismen rose in arms and seized all the lands which tradition assigned to their race; and the *zamindars* of Amorha in most cases openly defied the Government and declared their allegiance to the king of Oudh. On the other hand

the Raja of Bansi remained loyal, and not only rescued Captain Boileau and four other officers from Gonda, sending them on to Gorakhpur and Ghazipur under an escort, but also received Sir Charles Wingfield and the other fugitives on their way from Balrampur to Gorakhpur. It must be remembered that these acts of loyalty were purely spontaneous, for all authority was at an end. Martial law had indeed been proclaimed, but there was no means of enforcing it, and Mr. Peppe, who was the sole representative of Government, though he remained at his post throughout, had great difficulty even in preserving his own life.

State of the district.

Matters reached their climax when, on the 13th of August, Gorakhpur was abandoned. The wisdom and the necessity for this step have been much discussed; but the result was a general belief in the disappearance of British rule. An attempt was made, it is true, to govern through a board of Rajas; but this was immediately dissolved, as the Raja of Satasi became an open rebel, the Raja of Majhauli went into retirement, and the Raja of Bansi, the only Basti member of the committee, was unable to do anything beyond the limits of his estate. He could not even control the members of his clan; for on the 10th of July the Babu of Bakhira had driven out the police from that place. On the same day the local rebels plundered the Khalilabad tahsil, while on the 12th Captainganj was captured by the insurgents, headed by Muhammad Hasan, who now came to the front and, when Gorakhpur was abandoned, assumed the office of *nazim*. This man at once attempted to introduce some show of order. He preserved the records, so as to enable him to ascertain the revenue demand; he bestowed distinctions on the Raja of Nagar and other chiefs who made their submission; and he raised an army, both for the purpose of assisting the rebel cause, and also to maintain his authority. Such a step was in truth needed, for his administration resembled rather anarchy than government. Throughout the district the strong preyed upon the weak, and everywhere the auction-purchasers were ousted. His rule was not received with general favour, and even the rebels claimed full powers in their respective estates. Others did not acknowledge his authority: such were the Raja of Bansi, who refused to surrender the treasure in the tahsil, and actually defeated a

formidable force sent to coerce him; and the Rani of Basti, who refused to allow the *nazim* to pass through the town, or to permit the rebel *thanadar* to take up his residence there. The Raja of Bansi was afterwards compelled to yield to superior force, and to receive the tahsildar appointed by Muhammad Hasan; but the Rani maintained her attitude of resistance to the end, and when Gorakhpur was retaken, she attacked the flying rebels and captured a large brass gun.

Military operations.

No steps could be taken towards the recovery of the district till December 1857, when a large combined movement was organized with the object of clearing the country to the north of Benares. The operating forces were split up into three columns moving from the east. The first consisted of Maharaja Jang Bahadur of Nepal with his 9,000 Gurkhas, accompanied by Colonel MacGregor. The second was a combined force assembled in Bihar under Colonel Rowcroft; while the third was led by Brigadier-General Franks, who took up his headquarters at Jaunpur. On the 5th of January 1858 Jang Bahadur arrived before Gorakhpur, having marched from Bettiah, and defeated the rebels, driving them and their leader, Muhammad Hasan, over the Rapti into this district; the town was occupied, and an attempt was made forthwith to restore civil administration. On the 14th of February the Nepalese General left Gorakhpur, and on the 19th reached Berari on the Ghagra near Gaighat, the route taken being apparently through Khalilabad, Budwal and Lalganj. On the same day Rowcroft, who had with him Captain Sotheby, R.N., and the "Pearl" naval brigade, and had come up the Ghagra by boat, arrived at Naurahni, four miles lower down the stream, and landed on the right or Fyzabad bank. The next day he was joined by a brigade of Gurkhas with six guns, and hearing that the rebels were in force at Phulpur, drove them from their position with heavy loss. A bridge was then thrown across the river, and in this way MacGregor and the rest of the Nepalese troops gained the Oudh bank, pursuing their course towards Sultanpur and Lucknow, so as to join hands with Franks. Rowcroft was left behind in charge of Gorakhpur, and with him were two regiments of Gurkhas, the Bihar Light Horse, as well as Sotheby and the sailors. The latter kept to the river and shortly afterwards

on the 23rd stormed the strong Palwar fort of Chandipur in Fyzabad. Colonel Rowcroft then proceeded to Gorakhpur, but remained there only for a short time.

The campaign in Amorha.

Hearing that a large body of the enemy, consisting of the troops led by Mahdi Husain, the rebel *nazim* of Sultanpur, the Raja of Gonda, the Raja of Charda, and others, was encamped at Belwa in the extreme south-west of the district, Rowcroft marched with his entire force to Amorha, and on the 4th of March took up a position seven miles from the rebel entrenchment. The army opposed to him was composed of upwards of 14,000 men, and comprised a large number of sepoys, including the 1st, 10th and 53rd Native Infantry, the 2nd Oudh Police, and 300 men of the 5th Regiment of the Gwalior Contingent. Relying on their strength, the enemy resolved to attack Rowcroft at once, and on the morning of the 5th marched against the British camp. When within half a mile of the lines, they were met by Rowcroft, with whom were Sotheby and Major J. F. Richardson, commanding the volunteer cavalry. A severe contest ensued, as the trained sepoys fought with the greatest determination; but eventually the heavy rifle fire of the naval brigade caused them to waver, and three brilliant charges by the Light Horse completed their defeat. They were pursued as far as their entrenchments, losing between four and five hundred killed and wounded. Rowcroft did not feel himself strong enough to assault the position, and therefore retired to Amorha, waiting for reinforcements. He again defeated the rebels in the plain between the two camps on the 17th and 25th of April; but the enemy, though checked, were not discouraged, and Rowcroft was practically blockaded. So much so indeed that the enemy were able to detach a considerable force, which marched off to the south-east, crossed the Ghagra, and effected a junction with Kunwar Singh at Atraulia in Azamgarh—a measure which had a marked effect on that part of the country, as it caused great delay in the final pacification of the eastern districts. Rowcroft then fell back on Captainganj, and there remained encamped till the beginning of June.

Concluding operations.

In the meantime Jang Bahadur and his Gurkhas returned from Oudh, marching through Ajodhya and thence to Gorakhpur, on their way to Bettiah and Nepal. Their progress was retarded

by the immense number of carts containing wounded and loot, obtained at the capture of Lucknow and their subsequent raids in Bara Banki. Rowcroft, however, did not remain idle during the summer months. On the 9th of June, hearing that Muhammad Hasan, the *nazim* of Gorakhpur, had arrived at Amorha, he sent a detachment, under Major Cox, against the place. They were received with a heavy fire, but the marines and sailors drove in the outposts, and a vigorous cannonade sent the rebels flying from the village. On the 18th another and stronger force attacked the same rebel leader at Harha, and there inflicted on him and his 4,000 men a defeat so crushing, that he fled from this part of the country. In July the relief of Shahganj in Fyzabad by Sir Hope Grant broke up the main rebel army, of which one division went to Tanda, threatening Basti from the south; another to Gonda and the third to Sultanpur. Grant pursued them as far as Ajodhya, where he drove them in confusion over the Ghagra, and then turned south to Sultanpur; but in anticipation of coming events he directed Rowcroft to march north to Hir in pargana Bansi West, so as to guard the Oudh frontier against the rebels who were concentrating in Gonda. This he did, fighting an action near Domariaganj on the 27th of November, and at Hir he remained for several months; in this manner he not only performed his allotted course, but by his presence facilitated the restoration of order in Basti, no further actions taking place within the district. The advance on Gonda was delayed till the cold weather, when Lord Clyde conducted his final campaign in Oudh. After sweeping through Baiswara, Sir Hope Grant crossed the Ghagra at Ajodhya on the 27th of November, drove back Mahdi Husain and the Gonda Raja from Belwa, and reached Balrampur on the 16th of December. He then directed Rowcroft, who was reinforced by the 53rd Foot, to advance on Tulsipur, where Bala Rao, the brother of the Nana, had been joined by Muhammad Hasan. Rowcroft crossed the Burhi Rapti, found the enemy, and drove them in flight to the forest, capturing two of their guns; but for want of cavalry he was unable to pursue. In order to prevent the rebels from escaping eastwards, Sir Hope Grant marched direct to Biskohar, and thence to Dalhari on the Nepal frontier, where he joined hands with Rowcroft. They then attacked and defeated the rebels

at Kundakot on the edge of the forest, with the result that Bala Rao's army was dispersed, the bulk of it being driven into Nepal, where Colonel Kelly completed their rout, Muhammad Hasan at last giving himself up. This did not end the campaign, for fighting went on in Gonda and Bahraich till June 1859; but it marked the conclusion of the rebellion so far as Basti was concerned.

Rewards and punishments.

With the restoration of order came the day of reckoning, and a heavy account had to be settled. Muhammad Hasan escaped in consideration of his assistance to Colonel Lennox; but the Babu of Bakhira was hanged, and the Raja of Nagar avoided a similar fate by committing suicide in prison. Both their estates were confiscated, that of the latter being bestowed on the Raja of Bansi, whose brother and successor was afterwards created a Companion of the Star of India. For her complicity in the outbreak the Rani of Amorha lost her property, which was given to her neighbour, the loyal Rani of Basti. Altogether land paying a revenue of Rs. 65,135 was forfeited, the items for the different parganas being: Rasulpur, Rs. 3,225; Bansi, Rs. 4,626; Binayakpur, Rs. 1,289; Amorha, Rs. 9,079; Nagar, Rs. 29,848; Basti, Rs. 4,722; Mahuli, Rs. 4,761; and Maghar, Rs. 7,585. The recipients of rewards for loyalty were fairly numerous. In addition to the Bansi Raja, three of his Sarnet kinsmen who had defended the Bhadauli police post received grants of land. The agent of the Basti Rani obtained land assessed at Rs. 1,000. Mahipat Singh, a Gautam, who rendered good service in guarding the Ghagra ferries in Nagar and secured the apprehension of the Mahua Dabar murderers, was given land paying Rs. 3,000 revenue. In the Amorha pargana Ramji Ram of Kalyanpur, who gave valuable assistance to Rowcroft, warning him of the intended attack on the 5th of March 1858, and supplying information on many other occasions; Râm Lal Pande of Jagdispur, who remained conspicuously loyal throughout and suffered heavy losses in consequence; Ramadhin Misra of Sugaha, and Ram Parkash Pande of Belwa, who performed valuable services to the intelligence department; and Gopal Singh, a Surajbansi *zamindar* who for some time held Captainganj tahsil, were all rewarded with grants of confiscated land.

Subsequent history. The evil results of the rebellion soon passed away, and before the cessation of the campaign in the Oudh districts to the west, order had been restored and the civil administration was pursuing its normal course. The peace of the district was secured by the maintenance of a garrison at Gorakhpur, and also by the reorganized police force. The suspended work of the settlement of the land revenue was resumed almost immediately, and from that time onwards nothing has disturbed the tranquillity of Basti. The one event of prime interest was the constitution of the present district on the 6th of May 1865—a measure which had long been recognised as necessary for the effective control of so large a tract. The other occurrences worthy of note have been recorded already in the foregoing pages, in dealing with the development of the various branches of Government, the assessment of the revenue demand, and the happily unimportant visitations of floods and famines.

GAZETTEER

OF

BASTI.

DIRECTORY.

GAZETTEER

OF

BASTI.

DIRECTORY.

CONTENTS.

AMORHA, *Pargana* AMORHA, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

The capital of the pargana is a considerable village of tappa Ramgarh, and lies in 26° 46′ N. and 82° 24′ E., near the right bank of the Ramrekha stream, which is, however, known by different local names above and below the village. Through Amorha runs the unmetalled road that passes through the south of the district parallel to the Ghagra and joins the provincial road at Chhaoni, a short distance to the north-west, the village being eight miles from Haraiya and 23 from Basti. Amorha gave its name to the pargana before the days of Akbar, and for three or four centuries it was also the seat of the Kayasth Rajas, who were subsequently ejected by the Surajbansis. The ruins of the old fort can still be seen to the north-west of the village, the place having been dismantled after the cession of the district, though the Rajas retained their title and estates till the mutiny. At the last census Amorha contained 1,567 inhabitants, of whom 304 were Musalmans, 1,209 Hindus, and 54 of other religions, mainly Sikhs. The village possesses a post-office and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The total area is 1,523 acres, of which some 1,060 acres are cultivated; the revenue is Rs. 1,508, and the present proprietors are Brahmans.

AMORHA *Pargana*, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

Amorha, the most western pargana of the tahsil and district, is bounded on the east by Basti West and Nagar West, on the north and west by the Gonda district, and on the south-west and south by the river Ghagra, which separates it from Fyzabad. It is made up of six tappas, named Bangaon, Puraina, Sikandarpur, Ramgarh, Belwa and Dubaulia. The pargana had in 1905 a total area of 176,110 acres or 275 square miles, covering considerably more than half the total area of the tahsil. This amount is, however, subject to considerable variations from time to time, owing to the action of the Ghagra, which is liable to

change its course during the yearly floods, and frequently swallows or throws up large plots of alluvial land.

As a whole, the pargana is a rich and open plain, sloping gently towards the south-east. In the same direction flows the river Manwar through the centre of the tract, separating the Bangaon and Puraina tappas from the rest. This stream, which is also called the Manarama, receives several small affluents, of which the most important are the Chamnai, which for a few miles flows along the Gonda border, and the Ramrekha, which passes through the village of Amorha and joins the main stream on the boundaries of Nagar West. The Ramrekha is also known as the Tapiha above Amorha itself, and as the Nista below that village. Besides the streams, the country is dotted with numerous lakes and *jhils*, the chief of which are at Sikandarpur, Pachaus, Bhaganai, and Chinthi-Bhat, near the last of which is the village of Bhakrahi, giving its name to a small tributary of the Ramrekha. Most of the *jhils*, whether large or small, produce the wild rice known as *tinni*, and the larger lakes are full of fish. There is no forest in the pargana, although *mahua* and *sal* trees are fairly numerous, while patches of scrub jungle are to be found in a few villages in the north.

The Manwar divides the pargana into two fairly distinct tracts. Between that river and the Ghagra lies a stretch of alluvial country in which the soil is generally a greyish loam, fertile, easily worked, and suitable for almost every kind of crop. Water is near the surface, so that wells can be made without difficulty, and there are ample sources of irrigation. This tract is, however, liable to suffer in places from too much water, and in others from too much sand; both causes being due to the Ghagra, which sometimes inundates the southern villages and not unfrequently leaves behind it a deposit of unfertile sand. The latter also occurs in small ridges from place to place, these representing the banks of the river at some former period. This southern tract terminates in a *bhur* ridge marking the edge of the upland; a poor and sandy tract which suffers from want of irrigation and the sterility of the soil. It is of no great breadth, and beyond it stretches a level plain in which the soil is generally a fertile loam, more consistent than in the south, but not so stiff as to be

unworkable. There are ample sources of irrigation, and the crops raised are of a high quality. Taking the pargana as a whole about 77 per cent. of the area consists of loam soil, 14 per cent. of clay, and seven per cent. of sand. According to the conventional classification of the settlement about 22 per cent. is *goind*, 45 per cent. *miyana*, and 27 per cent. *palo*.

As appears from the survey statistics of the last settlement the cultivated area was then 118,620 acres, while of the remainder 31,594 acres were classed as culturable, and 24,797 acres as barren waste. In 1905 the area under cultivation was 118,005 acres, or 67 per cent. of the whole, the slight decline being more than counterbalanced by the increase in the area bearing a double crop, which had risen from 38,270 to 51,266 acres. Of the remaining area 39,502 acres were returned as culturable, including 5,267 acres under groves, and 18,603 acres as barren, though of this all but 3,109 acres were covered with water or occupied by village sites, roads and the like. About 60 per cent. of the cultivated area is within reach of irrigation in ordinary years, though considerably less than this as a rule actually receives water. Some two-thirds of the irrigation is derived from the wells, and the remainder from the numerous tanks or the small streams, which are frequently dammed for the purpose. The *kharif* harvest slightly exceeds the *rabi* in point of area and the pargana is superior to the rest of the tahsil as regards the quality of the crops grown. As usual, rice is the principal *kharif* staple, and is generally of the early variety, though the late rice or *jarhan* is more valuable; the amount of the latter produced varies according to the season, but it generally occupies about half the area of the early rice, which is the staple food of the people. Next comes maize, chiefly in the alluvial belt along the Ghagra, the crop being more extensively grown in this pargana than in any other part of the district. A large area is under *arhar*, and sugarcane is on the increase. Of the various spring staples wheat is by far the most important, while next come peas, and the valuable poppy crop is a good third.

The progress and development of the pargana are well illustrated by the steady rise in the revenue demand, as set forth

in the tabular statement given in the appendix.* At the last settlement an enhancement of no less than 37 per cent. was made, though the final demand was little more than 44 per cent. of the assets, and has never proved heavy. Since the settlement there has been a general rise in rents, and the assessment is now distinctly light. The rates accepted in assessment ranged from Rs. 2-9-0 per acre for the worst *palo* to Rs. 6-2-8 for the best *goind*, but there was a special rate of Re. 1-9-0 for the dry *bhur* lands, in which cultivation is necessarily somewhat precarious. The average incidence of the revenue at the time of settlement was Re. 1-15-0 per acre of cultivation, and though this is somewhat higher than the district average, the rate is low in consideration of the capacities of the tract. The revenue demand is liable to slight variations, as the alluvial *mahals* along the Ghagra come up for revision every five years.

The population as ascertained at the last census numbered 184,196 persons, showing a decrease of nearly 13,000 since the previous enumeration in 1891. The density is still very high, averaging 670 to the square mile. There are no less than 1,329 inhabited sites, and few of these are of any size; 11 villages contain over a thousand inhabitants, but the largest, Sikandarpur, had a population of but 1,799. The people are almost entirely occupied in agriculture, 111,338 being returned as agriculturists and 13,753 as labourers; and as the total extent of the land comprised in holding amounts to only 123,260 acres, the individual areas are extremely small. Classified according to religions, there were 170,449 Hindus, 13,692 Musalmans, and 55 others, the last being confined to Amorha itself. Among the cultivating classes Brahmans and Rajputs preponderate, but many of these are also proprietors, the chief castes among the tenants proper being Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, and Koeris, of whom the last are the most skilful. At the settlement 27 per cent. of the area included in holdings was in the possession of tenants with occupancy rights, but since that time the percentage has fallen to 20. Proprietary cultivation, on the other hand, has increased from ten to eighteen thousand acres; this result being due to the minute subdivision of property, which forces each petty co-sharer

* Appendix, Table IX.

to make the most of his lands by cultivating them himself and by preventing as far as possible the acquisition by his tenants of occupancy rights.

The pargana at the present time contains 899 villages, of which no fewer than 773 are held in imperfect *pattidari* tenure. Of the remainder, 33 are held in single, and 73 in joint, *zamindari*; five in perfect *pattidari*; seven are *bhaiyachara*; and eight are revenue-free. No less than 263 villages are held in under-proprietary right by *birtias*, this tenure being more common than in any other pargana of the district. These *birts* were in most cases conferred on Brahmans, who were persuaded by grants of lands to settle themselves on the borders of the Kayasth domains. For a long period the Kayasth Rajas of Amorha held most of the pargana, but they were gradually ousted by the Surajbansis, who in time gained possession of the eastern half, and by the death of the last Kayasth Raja in 1855 had attained a generally predominant position. Most of the Surajbansis' estates were, however, forfeited on account of rebellion and their lands bestowed on others. At the present time Brahmans and Rajputs hold most of the land, and only a small proportion remains to the Kayasths, their largest estate being that of Ridhaura, which comprises 9,116 acres. Most of the area is held by coparcenary communities owning one or two villages, and there are few properties of any extent. After Ridhaura the most important are those of the Rajputs of Jitipar and Shankarpur, and of the Brahmans of Kalyanpur, Jagdispur, Gaura Pande and Belbharia.

The pargana is traversed from east to west by the provincial road connecting Fyzabad to Gorakhpur, and on this highway stand Haraiya, the capital of the tahsil, and Chhaoni, a police-station and former cantonment. Unmetalled branches lead from this road north-eastwards from Bikramjot to Sonhan, and from Chhaoni to Dubaulia, Kalwari, Dhanghata and the Gorakhpur district. There is no railway in the pargana, but the Gaur and Babhnan stations lie close to the northern border. Another trade route is supplied by the Ghagra, while for half the year the Manwar also is navigable by small vessels. On or near the Ghagra stand the markets of Belwa and Dubaulia, and the weekly bazars at these places, as also at Amorha and Haraiya, provide a sale for

those agricultural staples which are the one great product of the tract.

BAKHIRA, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The chief village of the tappa of the same name stands in 26° 55′ N. and 83° 6′ E., on the road from Mehndawal to Khalilabad, ten miles north of the tahsil headquarters and 26 miles from Basti. Other roads lead south-east to Gorakhpur, and north-east to Bansi and Rudhauli. Bakhira is best known on account of the great lake which extends for some miles to the east, and is also called the Badhanchh Tal and the Moti Jhil. The latter appellation is said to have been bestowed upon it by Nawab Saadat Ali Khan, who frequently resorted here for hunting. The lake has already been described in Chapter I.

Bakhira itself is a quite small village, but the name is commonly applied to the bazar of Baghnagar, a practically adjoining site, and the two are always treated as one place. It was formerly the capital of a large domain granted by Raja Sarabjit Singh of Bansi to an illegitimate son, and in the course of time the Babus of Bakhira acquired an independent position. In Buchanan's time their fort was strongly defended by a mud rampart, with a ditch and bamboo hedge. In the mutiny, however, Babu Ram Partab Singh made himself conspicuous by his rebellion, attacking and destroying the Bakhira police-station; and for this and other offences he was hanged and his lands forfeited to Government. Bakhira was bestowed on loyalists, now represented by Lala Parsotam Das and others. The village lands are of no great extent and less than 50 acres are cultivated, owing to the large area under water; the chief crop being *boro* or summer rice, which is grown on the edges of the lake. As was the case with other confiscated markets, the right to collect the bazar dues was retained by Government, and is now leased for Rs. 170 a year to a descendant of the former Babus, who has returned to the service of the Raja of Bansi. The bazar is of considerable local importance, and markets are held here twice a week; the place has some reputation for the manufacture of brass vessels and coarse cloth. There is a large upper primary school

last census numbered 2,858 persons, of whom 482 were Musalmans. The provisions of the Sanitation Act have been enforced for some years, but only so far as the water-supply is concerned.

BANKATA, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

A village of tappa Majaura in the extreme north of the tahsil, lying on the road from Bansi to Mehndawal, in 27° 4′ N. and 83° 1′ E., at a distance of 32 miles north-east from Basti. On the north and west of the village flows the Barar, a branch of the Ami, in a well-defined channel with a fringe of jungle on either side. The road is carried over the river by a fine bridge. Bankata is only important as the headquarters of a police circle, and it is probable that it will soon lapse into complete insignificance with the abolition of the station. The site was originally chosen on account of the numerous dacoities that had occurred in the neighbourhood, and the measure was attended with complete success. In addition to the *thana*, there is a post-office and a cattle-pound. The population at the last census was 311, including 28 Musalmans, and consists mainly of Brahmans, Ahirs and Koeris. The village has an area of 114 acres, paying a revenue of Rs. 154 and is held by Brahmans.

BANSI, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

This small town, which gives its name to the pargana and tahsil, lies on the right bank of the Rapti in 27° 40′ N. and 82° 56′ E., at a distance of 32 miles from Basti, with which it is connected by a metalled road. The river is crossed by a bridge of boats, replaced during the rains by a ferry, and on the opposite bank lies Narkatha, a large suburb containing the residence of the Raja. From the bridge-head roads diverge to Biskohar, Chilia and Uska; while from Bansi itself branch roads run to Mehndawal and Domariaganj. The town stands high and is surrounded by depressions, that on the east containing water for the greater part of the year and receiving most of the drainage. During the rains the country round is flooded, but at other times there is a narrow stretch of cultivation between the river and the main site.

characterised by great fertility and the power of retaining moisture; it can grow any kind of crop, even sugarcane and poppy, without irrigation, and is especially suited for the cultivation of wheat. To the south of this *bhat* zone, which is bounded by the high bank of the old Rapti, the country resembles the *uparhar* of the district generally, and the prevailing soil is stiff loam varied by clay in the depressions. To the north of the Rapti lies a trough of *kachhar* or low land, through which run the Burhi Rapti and Banganga. Here the soil is mainly *bhat*, but of an inferior character and subject to annual inundations. The large tappas of Dabra and Hata lie almost wholly in this belt, and nearly every village in them is liable to flooding. Beyond the *kachhar* the ground is generally high, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the rivers; the soil is generally fertile, the chief exceptions being the occasional ridges of light land and the narrow strips along the Jamuwar and Tilar, where the soil is saturated and *reh* makes its appearance. Throughout the northern tract clay predominates, and the principal staple is *jarhan* rice; though no part of the pargana is so distinctly *tarai* in character as the northern tappas of Domariaganj.

The cultivated area has increased very rapidly of late years and in 1905 amounted to 271,053 acres or 75 per cent. of the whole, while of this no less than 107,782 acres bore a double crop. Of the remainder 54,495 acres are classed as culturable, including 9,035 acres of grove land; and 35,572 acres as barren, though of this all save 1,812 acres is either under water or occupied by roads, buildings and the like. Much of the so-called culturable area consists of broken and almost worthless ground near the rivers, and there is now little room for any extension of cultivation. In ordinary years about one-third of the land is irrigated, but the proportion varies with the season. Wells are scarce, especially in the north, and the main sources of supply are streams, water-courses, *jhils*, tanks, and the private canals on the European estates. The mainstay of the pargana is rice, chiefly of the transplanted variety, and this accounts for about 85 per cent. of the *kharif* area. Other important crops sown in the rains are *arhar* and sugarcane. The chief

rabi staples are wheat, *gujai*, barley, oilseeds, and peas, while poppy is grown to some extent.

Among the cultivating classes Brahmans take the lead, and are closely followed by Musalmans; then come Ahirs, Kurmis, Chamars, Rajputs, and Koeris. Many of the Brahman holdings are proprietary, and the *khudkasht* area has nearly doubled itself since the settlement, mainly at the expense of occupancy tenants. The rent-rates accepted by the settlement officer ranged from Rs. 2-11-0 for the worst *palo* to Rs. 6-1-0 for the best *goind;* and since that time they have risen to a marked extent. The revenue demand at the successive settlements will be found in the appendix.* In early days much of the land was under forest, and it was not till after 1840 that any extensive reclamation took place, resulting from the system of jungle grants which were gradually assessed to full revenue. At the last settlement an enhancement of 45 per cent. was obtained, but even so the incidence was but Rs. 1-10-0 per acre of cultivation.

The population of the pargana has risen very rapidly during the past 50 years, and between 1891 and 1901 an increase of nearly 55,000 was observed. At the last census the total was 387,030, of whom 331,427 were Hindus, 55,591 Musalmans, and 12 of other religions. There are 1,391 villages and 1,579 inhabited sites, with an average density of 689 to the square mile. Besides the large jungle grants, which contain a number of small hamlets, there are few places of any size, the only exceptions being Bansi, Narkatha and Uska, each of which has been separately described. The pargana contains several markets of importance, for though it has no manufactures of its own and the crops are the only commercial product, a large volume of trade passes through it from Nepal and the country to the south. To this cause may be ascribed the rise of Uska, Shohratganj and Naugarh, and to a less extent that of Bansi itself.

Means of communication have been greatly improved since the introduction of the railway from Gorakhpur to Uska and its recent extension to Tulsipur in Gonda, the stations being at Uska, Naugarh, Chilia, and Shohratganj. Bansi is connected with Basti by a metalled road. The same road extends by way of

* Appendix, Tables IX and X.

Uska to the Nepal frontier, but the portion between Bansi and Uska is low and unmetalled, most of it being submerged during the rains. From Uska to Birdpur, which is eight miles from the frontier, the road is again raised and metalled. At Birdpur it is crossed by a road which traverses the north of the pargana, passing through Chilia and continuing east to Kakrahwa bazar in Nepal. Several branches from this road lead to Bansi, but in most cases they are serviceable only in the dry weather. South of the Rapti, roads lead from Bansi to Domariaganj and Mehndawal.

The early history of the pargana is identical with that of the Sarnet Rajas of Bansi and their dependents, and reference may be made to the account of the chief landowners given in Chapter III. The Raja is still the principal proprietor, and next come the European grantees of Birdpur, Alidapur and elsewhere. Brahmans hold by far the largest area, and after them come Rajputs, Musalmans, Bhuinhars, Kayasths and Banias. Several estates are of considerable size. Such are those of the Tiwari Brahmans of Chhitia and Charthari, the Misras of Bansi, the Kayasths of Pipari, Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar, and the Bhuinhars of Baur Bias. Of the 1,391 villages of the pargana 69 are revenue-free, and for the most part belong to the *nankar* of the Bansi Raja; 178 are owned by single proprietors, 267 are held in joint *zamindari* tenure, 876 in imperfect, and one in perfect, *pattidari*. The under-proprietary tenure known as *birt* occurs in 81 villages.

The ancient Buddhist remains at Piprahwa in the Birdpur estate have been mentioned already in Chapter V. There are several other sites which would doubtless repay exploration, as has been indicated by Major Vost.* The old temple of Palta Debi in Alidapur is probably of the same date: the *lingam* might well be one of the missing Asoka pillars, but the attendant priests, who are Atits of Bakhira, not unnaturally refuse to allow an excavation of the site.

BANSI WEST *Pargana, Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This pargana occupies the northern portion of the tahsil, and comprises an irregularly-shaped tract of country bounded on the

* J. R. A. S., 1906, p. 553 *et seq.*

north by the Nepal frontier, on the east by the Banganga and pargana Bansi East, on the west by the Gonda district, and on the south by pargana Rasulpur, from which it is separated by the Parasi and Akrari rivers. The Gonda boundary is formed partly by the Arrah, and partly by the Burhi Rapti, which after its junction with the former flows in a south-easterly direction through the pargana to join the Banganga in Bansi East. It is fed by a number of streams from the Tarai country of Nepal, and on its right bank receives the Sikri, which takes an almost parallel course through the centre of the pargana and joins the main stream in the south-east near Misraulia. In addition to these rivers, the surface of the country is broken by a number of smaller streams and watercourses, as well as by several lakes and *jhils;* the largest perhaps is the Pakri Tal to the north of Intwa, while others are to be found near Kop and Khankot.

The total area of the pargana is 163,018 acres or 255 square miles. It is divided into 11 tappas, of which Dhebarua and Khajahni lie to the north of the Burhi Rapti, while between that river and the Parasi are Kop, Budhi, Hir, Khankot, Kot, Dewaichpar and Barikpar, and south of the Parasi are Khuniaon and Khaira. The different tracts vary greatly in their character and appearance. The two northern tappas practically form a continuation of the Nepal Tarai. The southern portion especially lies low and is completely inundated in the rains, while in the dry weather it is a great plain of thatching grass, in itself of considerable value, with a few patches of inferior cultivation on the somewhat higher ground along the Burhi Rapti. The bulk of this tract is a wide stretch of *jarhan* land, separated from the *dabar* or grassy plain by a line of comparatively high poor land running east and west. The only *rabi* cultivation of any importance is to be found in the *bhat* soil along the Banganga. The streams with which this tract is intersected frequently change their channel, resulting in considerable injury to the land in their neighbourhood, as the fertile clay is apt to be covered by a deposit of sand. The whole country along the Nepal frontier is marked by a succession of undulations, the hollows representing old river beds, and the sandy ridges between them the remains of the silt heaped up on their banks.

To the south of this Tarai tract the most prominent natural feature is the Burhi Rapti, whose narrow bed has cut deep into the friable soil, and is bordered throughout its length by a maze of *naukhans* or old channels. The river deposits *bhat,* like the Rapti, but the silt is not nearly so fertile and sometimes contains a large proportion of sand, though it generally produces good *rabi* crops. The tappas of Budhi and Kop in the west consist chiefly of a rich clay soil, admirably suited for the growth of *jarhan,* and very little *rabi* is grown except in the *kachhar* of the Burhi Rapti and the higher land to the south. In Khankot and Dewaichpar, which lie further east between the Burhi Rapti and the Sikri, *jarhan* is still the principal crop, though the *rabi* is of more importance; but the country is less developed and patches of grass and scrub jungle are frequent. Further east, in Barikpar, the jungle area increases, but to the south of the Sikri there is a good deal of excellent *rabi* land. The rest of the pargana is of a fairly homogeneous character, patches of light soil alternating with rice fields. Taken as a whole, about 50 per cent. of the soil is clay, 46 per cent. loam, and the remainder sand or silt. The most valuable portion is the *jarhan* tract, but even this is not free from defects; the tappas of Budhi, Hir, and Kop are liable to inundation, while Kot and Khaira are too much intersected by *nalas* to admit of successful cultivation.

At the time of the settlement the area under the plough was 106,072 acres, and by 1905 it had increased to 114,168 acres or 71 per cent. of the whole, and of this 32,050 acres bore a double crop. The remaining area comprises 36,222 acres classed as culturable, including 2,486 acres under groves; and 12,628 acres as barren, two-thirds of this being under water, while of the rest all but 749 acres were occupied by buildings and roads. There is very little irrigation, as in ordinary years none is required; the rainfall is generally very heavy, and it is on this that the tract depends. The survey returns show about 15 per cent. as irrigated, but this does not include *jarhan* lands, although in the north of the pargana the small streams are frequently dammed and made to flow through channels into the rice fields. Nearly 85 per cent. of the *kharif* area is taken up by rice, mainly of the *jarhan* variety, and *arhar* is the only other important crop sown in the

rains. Of the *rabi* staples the principal are wheat, *gujai*, peas, barley and oilseeds; but the area, though tending to increase, is still comparatively small.

The largest share of the cultivation is in the hands of Musalmans, chiefly of low caste, and next to them come Brahmans, whose cultivation is to a great extent proprietary. The superior classes of husbandmen, such as Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, and Koeris, also hold a fair proportion. The *khudkasht* area has, however, increased largely since the settlement, partly at the expense of the occupancy tenants. Cash rents generally prevail, and are either *darbandi* or calculated at a fixed rate per *bigha*, or else *halbandi*, at so much per plough. The latter form of tenure is peculiar to this part of Basti and has been described elsewhere. The grain-rented area, though not large, is more extensive than in any other part of the district; the share taken by the *zamindar* varying from one-third to two-fifths. The cash rent-rates accepted by the settlement officers ranged from Rs. 2-4-0 per acre for the worst *palo* to Rs. 6-14-0 for the best *goind*. The revenue demand at each settlement will be found in the appendix.* At first it was very low, as most of the tract was then covered with jungle and forests, of which the sole remnants are to be found along the Sikri and Parasi. The system of jungle grants did much towards the development of the pargana, and from 1840 the revenue rose rapidly. At the last settlement an enhancement of 41 per cent. was taken, but even so the incidence was only Re. 1-8-6 per acre of cultivation, and represented little more than 40 per cent. of the assets. The present lightness of the demand is clearly illustrated by the ease with which it is realized.

At the census of 1901 a small increase of 676 persons was observed over the preceding enumeration, the total being 112,247, of whom 82,056 were Hindus and 30,190 Musalmans. The average density is 441 to the square mile, and the number of villages 455. The great majority of the latter are very small: Biskohar is the only town, and apart from this there is not a village with over a thousand inhabitants. Means of communication are poor, and during the rains traffic is greatly impeded by the flooded state of the country. The principal road is from

* Appendix, Tables IX and X.

Domariaganj to Nepal by way of Intwa, where it is crossed by one connecting Biskohar with Bansi. Another road traverses the north of the pargana, running from Dhekahri to Chilia and Birdpur; and two more cross at Misraulia in the south-east, leading from Intwa to Chilia and from Dhebarua to Bansi. Matters have been considerably improved, in the north at any rate, by the construction of the branch line from Uska to Tulsipur. On this there are stations at Parsa and Barhni, and a bazar of some importance is springing up at the latter place.

In early days the pargana appears to have been held by the Solankhi Rajas of Kathela, where traces of an old town are still to be seen. It subsequently passed into the hands of the Bansi Rajas, but their control does not seem to have been very complete, as they were constantly harassed by their neighbours to the north, and for this reason perhaps they made large grants of land to their dependents in order to secure their boundaries from inroads. At the present time 85 villages are owned by single proprietors, 132 are held in joint *zamindari* tenure, two in perfect, 230 in imperfect, *pattidari*, while the remaining six are revenue-free. Under-proprietors hold 26 villages in *birt*. The largest landowners are the Kurmi Chaudhris of Dhekahri, the Maharaja of Balrampur in Gonda, and the Babus of Chaukhara, who are said to be descended from the old Kalhans chieftains. Several villages are held by the widow of Mathura Prasad, a Bania of Gorakhpur, and most of the remainder is in the hands of Brahman and Rajput communities.

BANSI *Tahsil.*

This, the largest subdivision of the district, comprises the two north-eastern parganas of Bansi East and Binayakpur, and includes an area of 392,126 acres or 613 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Nepal frontier, on the east by the Gorakhpur district, on the west by tahsil Domariaganj, and on the south by the two parganas of Maghar, which form portions of the Basti and Khalilabad tahsils.

There are 31 tappas in the tahsil, of which only two belong to Binayakpur, the total area of that pargana being but 31,006 acres. The two parganas form the subject of separate articles,

giving a detailed account of their physical characteristics, revenue and agriculture. The tahsil is generally fertile, although in places *reh* tends to make its appearance. The whole tract is cut up by numerous rivers and watercourses, the chief of which are the Rapti, and its tributaries, the Burhi Rapti, Banganga and Kunhra. The last is fed by a number of streams rising either in Nepal or within the boundaries of the tahsil. Such are the Jamuwar with its affluent, the Mahsai, and the Tilar, joined by the Siswa and Tinawa, which together combine to form the Kunhra. The latter again is met by the Hagni, and after its junction with the Ghunghi is known as the Dhamela. Along the course of these rivers there is a considerable area of low-lying ground which is inundated yearly, so that during the rains many parts of the tahsil are only accessible by boats. South of the Rapti the land is less swampy and the rainfall not so heavy; but here, too, the streams and drainage channels are numerous. Some of these represent old beds of the Rapti, flowing either into the present stream, or else, as is the case with the Barar and the Budha, passing southwards to join the Ami in pargana Maghar. A little more than half of the tahsil possesses a loam soil, and most of the remainder consists of clay, in which excellent crops of *jarhan* or late rice are grown. The alluvial silt of the Rapti and Banganga, known locally as *bhat*, is remarkably fertile and requires no irrigation. Elsewhere the streams, watercourses, lakes, tanks and private canals form the main sources of irrigation, wells being comparatively scarce. In a dry year the rice crop, which is the mainstay of the tahsil, could not be saved; but such occurrences are rare and the rains are usually abundant.

Bansi forms a subdivision in the charge of a full-powered magistrate on the district staff, and in matters of civil jurisdiction is included in the circle of the Bansi munsifi in the judgeship of Gorakhpur. There is a tahsildar with headquarters at Bansi, who exercises revenue and magisterial powers of the second and third classes respectively. For police purposes the tahsil is divided into five circles, the headquarters of which are located at Bansi, Uska, Chilia, Lotan, and Bankata, the last being in pargana Maghar East. Effective supervision is somewhat difficult to attain in this part of the district, owing to

the obstacles to communication, especially during the wet weather.

The population of the tahsil has increased very rapidly of late years. In 1872 it numbered 287,681 persons, or 472 to the square mile; by 1881 the total had risen to 338,839, and at the following census it was 362,734. The rate of progression has since been well maintained, for at the last enumeration of 1901 the number of inhabitants was 402,277, of whom 198,863 were females. The average density, though lower than that in the south of the district, was 656 to the square mile. Classified according to religions, there were 332,701 Hindus, 69,552 Musalmans, 15 Christians, five Jains, and four Aryas. As usual, Chamars are the best represented caste, numbering 52,925 persons; while after them come Brahmans, 39,604; Ahirs, 38,663; Kurmis, 18,296; Lodhs, 18,249; Kahars, 11,695; Pasis, 11,325; and Kewats, 11,010. Besides these, Banias, Telis, Dhobis, Kumhars, Muraos, Barhais, Chains, Lohars, Barais, Rajputs, and Kalwars were found in numbers exceeding five thousand. The Rajputs belong to many different clans, the chief being the Sarnets of Bansi, followed by Bais, Bisens and Gautams. Among the Musalmans Sheikhs predominate with a total of 13,389, and then come Julahas, 10,659; next in order are Pathans, Rajputs, many of whom are drawn from the Bais and Chauhan clans, Faqirs, Behnas, Hajjams and Churihars.

According to the census returns, 61 per cent. of the people were directly dependent on agriculture, but the actual proportion is no doubt considerably higher. Some 12 per cent. were engaged in general labour, while of the other industries those connected with cotton provided the greatest number with a means of subsistence. There is a considerable amount of trade, but no manufactures of any importance. The people are scattered over 1,714 inhabited sites, most of which are naturally very small; the only towns are Uska, Bansi, and Narkatha, the first being composed of four separate bazars, while the two last are practically one, being divided only by the river Rapti. In addition to these, Naugarh and Shohratganj deserve mention as being growing centres of the traffic with Nepal, some account of which has already been given in Chapter II.

Means of communication have been vastly improved by the extension of the railway from Gorakhpur and Uska to Tulsipur in the Gonda district, and with this aid the people find no difficulty in disposing of their surplus produce. The chief road is that from Basti to Bansi, Uska and the Nepal frontier. This is metalled as far as Bansi, and also between Uska and Birdpur, but the portion between Bansi and Uska runs through low-lying country and is submerged during the rains. Several roads radiate from Bansi, leading to Mehndawal, Domariaganj, Biskohar, and Dhebarua, but these are only serviceable in the dry season, and with the exception of that to Domariaganj are inundated in the rains. From Uska a fair road leads to Sohas, Lotan, and Nepal; while a well-frequented road passes through the north of the tahsil from Kakrahwa in Nepal through Neora and Birdpur, and is kept in good order by the European proprietors. There are inspection-houses at Bansi, Uska and Shohratganj. Lists of the schools, ferries, post-offices, markets and fairs of the tahsil will be found in the appendix.

BARAKONI, *Pargana* MAHULI WEST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

A hamlet of the village of Sohni in tappa Sheobakhri, situated in latitude 26° 35′ N. and longitude 82° 53′ E., on the unmetalled road which runs parallel to the Ghagra and connects the Gonda and Gorakhpur districts. It lies in the extreme south-east corner of the tahsil, at a distance of 24 miles from Basti. The place is only of importance as the headquarters of a police-circle, which includes part of the tract between the Ghagra and Kuwana rivers in this tahsil and Khalilabad. The circle is now, however, to be amalgamated with that of Budhabandh. There is also a post-office, a cattle-pound, and a small bazar, the village being a recognised halting-place for travellers on this road. The name Barakoni is said to be derived from the twelve-cornered plinth of a well which used to adorn the encamping-ground, but is no longer to be seen. The village is bounded on the north by the Kuwana, and a short distance to the west is the cross-channel uniting the waters of the Kuwana and Ghagra during the rains. At the last census the population numbered 873 souls, including 385 Musalmans, and a community of Panwar Rajputs. The

area is 195 acres, assessed at Rs. 377, the cultivated land covering 195 acres and chiefly tilled by low-caste Muhammadans. The proprietor is Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur of Bhanpur.

BASTI, *Pargana* BASTI EAST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

The capital of the district is a straggling town in *tappa* Haveli, situated in 26° 47′ N. and 82° 44′ E., at a distance of 41 miles from Gorakhpur. The population in 1872 numbered 5,087 souls, and this rose to 5,536 in 1881. At the following census the total was 13,630, but this sudden rise was due chiefly to the inclusion of several different sites within the area of the town. At the last enumeration the number of inhabitants was 14,761, of whom 6,411 were females. Classified by religions, there were 10,834 Hindus, 3,859 Musalmans, and 68 others, Christians, Aryas, and Sikhs.

Basti is thus the largest town in the district, but the description is somewhat misleading, as it consists of three distinct portions. Between the provincial road and the railway is the mud-built town known as old Basti, standing on a site but little raised above the low rice-lands which surround it on every side. This has grown up within and around the old entrenched village whose citadel was the still existing castle of the Raja of Basti. The fortifications enclose a square area, the side of which is about half a mile in length, defended by a wide ditch, with the earth piled up on the inner side to form a rampart. This bank now appears as a weather-beaten mound of varying height; while the ditch is an irregular series of stagnant ponds, which do not conduce to the healthiness of the place. Through the east of this site runs the metalled road connecting Basti with Bansi, and this has become the high street of the town, being flanked on either side with shops and houses. Beyond this street lies a mass of mud hovels differing in no respect from an ordinary village. Even on the main road itself the only spot which suggests the idea of brisk trade is the Chauk or crossing where four roads meet. This is used as a market-place on Saturdays and Tuesdays. To the west is the Raja's residence, on a mound about four acres in extent: a substantial building with a picturesque frontage, a steep ascent leading to the main gate. It was defended, in days

when defence was necessary, by a moat and the usual bamboo hedge. Apart from this, there is no building of note in old Basti. Two roads, leading from the north and south of the town, respectively, give access to the railway station on the north-east, and beyond the railway two branches take off from the Bansi road, leading to Mehndawal and Domariaganj.

The original village apparently owed its promotion to its selection as the seat of the first Kalhans Raja, an event which probably occurred in the sixteenth century. On the cession of the district in 1801 it became the headquarters of a tahsil, but was described by Buchanan in 1813 as "more sorry than any place of its size in the district," while the people were also said to be "in the most abject state of poverty." For some time before the mutiny Basti had been the site of an opium storehouse and treasury, guarded by a detachment of native troops; but the place did not attain its present position till 1865, when it was chosen as the headquarters of the newly-established district. Since then it has steadily grown both in population and in general importance.

The growth of Basti is, however, mainly due to its extension to the south-west and the inclusion of other sites within the limits of the town. To the south of old Basti on the provincial road is the opium godown, and a mile beyond this is the Naya, or Pakka, Bazar, a considerable site lying on either side of the road and containing the residences of the pleaders and native officials of the district. It is of comparatively modern origin, and lies on the lands of five different villages. To the south of the road is the new *sarai* and also the Mission high school, the chief educational institution in the district, and the middle school. To the east of the Pakka Bazar is the *sadr* dispensary located in the old tahsildar's office.

The civil station lies about half a mile to the west of the bazar, built round a fine and spacious common at the top of the slope which rises north-eastwards from the Kuwana. This common is surrounded by a road, and across the northern end runs the provincial road, leading down to the bridge over the river. At the northern end are the district courts and offices, the munsif's court, the sessions house, the dâk bungalow, the tahsil and police-station.

Round the *maidan* are the few European bungalows, as well as the church. The post-office is to the west, and to the south are the police lines and the jail. The civil station is well laid out and consists of *nazul* property, under the management of the collector.

Basti has been administered as a single town under Act XX of 1856 since 1885. The income is derived from the usual house-tax, and also from *nazul* lands. There were 2,671 houses in 1906, of which 1,301 were assessed, the average income from the house-tax for the three years prior to that date being Rs. 2,638, which gave an incidence of Rs. 2-0-11 per assessed house and Re. 0-2-10 per head of population; the total income from all sources was Rs. 4,403, including the opening balance. The expenditure for the same period averaged Rs. 4,316, the chief items being police, Rs. 1,612; conservancy, Rs. 1,323; and local improvements, Rs. 613. The Raja of Basti is the chief landholder outside the civil station. Round the town there are some 620 acres of cultivation, bringing in a rental of Rs. 7,075 and paying a revenue of Rs. 2,420. There are no manufactures in Basti, and the place is at best little more than the market town of an agricultural tract.

BASTI EAST *Pargana, Tahsil* BASTI.

This is the central pargana of the tahsil, and consists of an irregularly-shaped stretch of country bounded on the north-east and east respectively by the Garehia and Katnehia rivers, which separate it from the Maghar West and Maghar East parganas, on the south by Nagar East and Mahuli West, on the west by Basti West and Nagar West, the dividing line being the Kuwana, and on the north by pargana Rasulpur and the Domariaganj tahsil. It is made up of the seven tappas known as Haveli, Deoraon, Karar, Pandia, Sikandarpur, Kothila and Umra. The total area is 108,326 acres or 169 square miles.

Practically all the pargana forms part of the central upland plain with a general slope to the east or south-east. Along the Kuwana in the west the ground is somewhat broken by ravines, and this gives place to a narrow strip of light soil. Further east comes a broad belt of rich loam suitable for every kind of crop, and gradually giving place to stiffer land which still produces

both harvests, but is more suitable for rice than for *rabi* crops. Along the course of the Katnehia, which takes its rise in the large Jasoia Tal in the north and flows south-east to join the Garehia on the eastern border, the soil becomes a hard clay in which transplanted rice is the chief staple. Beyond that river, in tappa Umra, is found the stiffest land of all, known locally as *bhaghar*. This is an almost black soil, very hard and dry, opening into fissures in the hot weather; it produces good rice and sugarcane, but will scarcely grow *rabi* at all. According to the survey returns, 74 per cent. of the pargana is loam and 19 per cent. clay; while the conventional classification of the settlement gives 19 per cent. *goind*, 40 per cent. *miyana*, 36 per cent. *palo*, and the remaining five per cent. either dry *bhur* or *kachhar*. Besides the rivers already mentioned, there are no streams of importance, but two small tributaries join the Kuwana, one flowing through Sikandarpur, and the other forming the boundary between that tappa and Pandia and afterwards joining the main stream to the north of Basti civil station. There are many lakes and *jhils*, some of considerable size. The most prominent are the Jasoia Tal and that at Dudras in Umra; at Saraini in Kothila; at Rasna and Majhawa Jagat in Pandia; the Khara and Puraina Tals in Karar; and those at Nariaon, Urwara and Bhelkha in Haveli.

The cultivated area at the last settlement was 75,713 acres, and in 1905 this had risen to 80,055 acres or 74 per cent. of the whole, while 29,387 acres bore a double crop. Of the remainder, 17,204 acres, including 3,218 acres under groves, were returned as culturable and 11,067 acres as barren, but more than half of this was under water and the bulk of the remainder occupied by roads and buildings, the actually unculturable area being but 542 acres. Means of irrigation are abundant, and in ordinary years about 55 per cent. of the cultivation is artificially watered. Tanks and *jhils* form the principal source of supply, but there is a large number of wells, which can be easily and cheaply made in almost every part, and the small streams are extensively utilized. The *kharif* harvest exceeds the *rabi* in point of area, and by far the most important crop is rice, of which the early variety predominates. This is followed by wheat, though occupying but one-third

of the area cultivated for rice, while other staples include peas, *arhar*, sugarcane, and poppy.

The chief cultivating castes are Brahmans and Kurmis ; next to them come Chamars, Musalmans, Ahirs, and Rajputs. The holdings of the Brahmans are largely proprietary, but the Kurmis are skilled cultivators and make good tenants, while the Ahirs and the low-caste Muhammadans are little inferior. The holdings are very small, and average no more than 1·5 acres. Rents were fairly high at the time of the settlement, and have since risen to a considerable extent ; they then ranged from Rs. 4-4-0 to Rs. 7-2-0 per acre for *goind ;* from Rs. 3-3-0 to Rs. 5-11-0 for *miyana*, and from Rs. 2-2-0 to Rs. 4-4-0 for *palo*. The revenue as fixed at successive settlements will be found in the appendix.* The demand has for a long time been very light, and though an enhancement of over 60 per cent. was taken at the last settlement, it represented less than 44 per cent. of the assets and gave an initial incidence of Rs. 2-0-11 per acre. The latter is higher than in most parganas, but far from excessive in consideration of the capabilities of the tract ; and in view of the recent rise in rents the demand is now extremely moderate.

The population of the pargana at the last settlement was 132,602 persons, of whom 114,620 were Hindus, 17,900 Musalmans and 82 of other religions, chiefly Aryas and Christians. The total has risen considerably of late years, for in 1881 it was 109,174, and at the following census 130,053, the present density being no less than 790 to the square mile. The people are distributed over 721 inhabited sites, and with the exception of Basti itself there are few villages of any size. Only four possess more than a thousand inhabitants, and even these are made up of several hamlets. Apart from Basti, the sole market of any importance is Deoraon, though there are many petty village bazars. Means of communication are good, as the pargana is traversed by the railway with a station at old Basti and has the benefit of the numerous roads which converge on the district headquarters. These include the provincial road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur, the metalled road from Basti to Bansi, and those leading to

* Appendix, Table IX.

Domariaganj, Mehndawal and Mahuli. In the north-west is the branch road from Sonhan to Bikramjot.

The pargana in former days was one of the Kalhans principalities, and this clan still holds most of the land. At their head is the Raja of Basti, who owns a number of villages, though the estate is suffering from the mismanagement of his predecessors and is now under the care of the Court of Wards. The pargana was originally known as Mansurnagar Basti, the former name being derived from a village now in Basti West, on the right bank of the Kuwana; it is so called after Mansur Ali Khan, the second Nawab Wazir of Oudh. At present the pargana contains 587 villages. Of these 69 are held by single proprietors and 97 in joint *zamindari* tenure; two are revenue-free, three are Government property, and the remaining 416 are imperfect *pattidari*. As many as 186 villages are held by under-proprietors on a *birt* tenure: the *birtias* are mainly Brahmans and Rajputs, who derive their rights from former Rajas. Besides the Raja of Basti, the chief landowners are the heirs of the late Mr. Cooke; Sri Nawaz Pande of Narharia, who owns his rise to the Raja of Basti and is rapidly extending his estates; and several families of Kalhans, who have obtained grants of land at different times from the head of the clan. A considerable area also is held by Kayasths in different parts of the pargana.

BASTI WEST *Pargana, Tahsil* HARAIYA.

This pargana occupies the north-eastern portion of the Haraiya tahsil, and forms part of the old pargana of Basti, having been separated from Basti East at the constitution of the district. The old fiscal subdivision is generally mentioned as Mansurnagar Basti, the former name being derived from a village on the right bank of the Kuwana, and so called after Mansur Ali Khan, better known as Safdar Jang. It would have been more convenient had the old name been retained for the new pargana, so as to obviate in some measure the awkward division into eastern and western parganas which occurs in four other cases in this district.

The pargana is a tract of no great size, comprising the four tappas of Sheopur, Atroh, Ratanpur, and Hardi. It is bounded on the north and north-west by the Gonda district, on the west by Amorha, and south by Nagar West, and on the east by the

Kuwana, which separates it from Basti East. The total area is 71,758 acres or 112 square miles.

In its general aspect the pargana is of a very homogeneous character, forming part of the central upland plain. The surface is broken by the Kuwana and its tributaries, of which the chief is the Rawai, a small stream which enters Basti West from Amorha in the extreme western corner, and thence flows in a south-easterly direction, forming the southern boundary for some six miles; though it possesses a well-defined bed, it is liable to come down in sudden floods and to injure the land in its immediate neighbourhood. Other tributaries include the Bisuhi, a river of Gonda, which joins the Kuwana in the extreme north; the Gajri, a small stream with several branches draining the centre of tappa Sheopur; the Daijua, which traverses the south-east of the same tappa and flows in a north-easterly direction, crossing the railway between Gaur and Tinich; and the Majhora, which rises near Hardi and for a few miles forms the southern boundary. There are also many *tals* and depressions, of which the chief are those at Bhuila and Aila. According to the survey statistics, 88 per cent. of the soil is loam, the remainder being mostly clay; while the conventional classification of the settlement shows 20 per cent. as *goind*, 47 per cent. *miyana*, and 33 per cent. *palo*. As a rule, the tract is fertile, the land fetching high rents, and is capable of producing both spring and autumn crops.

At the last settlement the area under cultivation was 50,211 acres, and this had risen to 50,505 acres or 70·4 per cent. in 1905, while 19,169 acres bore a double crop, representing an increase of nearly 3,000 acres since the survey. Of the remaining area 15,501 acres were classified as culturable, including 1,895 acres of grove land, and 5,752 acres as barren, although of this all but 1,053 acres was under water or occupied by buildings and roads. In ordinary years some 60 per cent. of the cultivated area can be irrigated. Wells form the chief source of supply, but the *jhils* and smaller streams are of considerable value, although the Kuwana is seldom utilized for this purpose. The two harvests are approximately equal in extent. The rice, chiefly of the early variety, accounts for more than half the *kharif* area, and wheat for over a third of that sown in the *rabi*. Other important

crops are *arhar*, peas, and linseed, while the cultivation of poppy is extensive and valuable.

The general excellence of the pargana may be gathered from the fact that at the last settlement only two circles were formed for assessment purposes, and that 293 villages were included in the first circle paying the highest rates in each class of soil, and only 39 in the second. The revenue demand at successive settlements will be found in the appendix. At the last assessment the enhancement amounted to only $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the demand being little more than 45 per cent. of the assets and the average incidence Re. 1-12-0 per acre.* The accepted rent rates varied from Rs. 2-2-0 per acre for the worst *palo* to Rs. 7-2-0 for the best *goind*, being on the whole distinctly above the general average of the district.

At the census of 1901 the population numbered 75,367 persons, of whom 67,677 were Hindus, 7,679 Musalmans, and 11 of other religions. As was the case throughout the Haraiya tahsil, there was a small decrease in the total since the previous enumeration, when the number of inhabitants was 77,256. The people are almost wholly engaged in agricultural pursuits, and are scattered over 594 inhabited sites with an average density of 673 to the square mile. The tenant holdings are naturally very small, and the majority of the landowners also are mere peasant proprietors living by their own farming rather than by their rents. Among both proprietors and cultivators Brahmans preponderate, and next to them come Rajputs. The chief castes among the tenants proper are Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, Musalmans, Koeris, Kahars, and Kayasths. At the settlement 12,305 acres were cultivated by owners and 37,918 by tenants; but in 1905 owners' cultivation had increased to 15,000 acres, mostly at the expense of occupancy tenants, who now hold but 11,000 acres. This tendency is common throughout the district, and its causes have been mentioned in the article on pargana Amorha and elsewhere.

At the present time, out of 332 villages, 239 are held in imperfect *pattidari* tenure, and of the remainder 43 are single and 45 joint *zamindari*, four are perfect *pattidari*, and one is revenue-free. Eleven other villages are partly *muafi* and partly

*Appendix, Tables IX and X.

assessed to revenue; and 134 are held by *birtias* as underproprietors. There are no large estates in the pargana, excepting perhaps that of the late Mr. Cooke, who had five jungle grants assessed at Rs. 5,000. The only *zamindars* paying more than a thousand rupees are the Rajputs of Bargawan and Ama, the Brahmans of Ramwapur, and the Musalman Chaudhris of Majhawa.

Basti West contains no markets of importance and no villages of any size. The jungle grants of Ajgaiba and Bhatia have over two thousand inhabitants, but in each case they are made up of numerous detached hamlets. The largest villages are Kurda and Mahua Dabar. The only trade is in grain, and a list of the small markets will be found in the appendix. Means of communication are good, as the centre of the pargana is traversed by the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, with stations at Gaur and Tinich. From the latter an unmetalled road runs to Captainganj and Dubaulia, while a similar road from Sonhan crosses the railway at Gaur and continues in a south-westerly direction to join the main road to Fyzabad at Bikramjot in Amorha. The most interesting place in the pargana is Bhuilā, where is an ancient Buddhist site, at one time supposed to represent the city of Kapilavastu, though this theory has long been discarded.

BASTI *Tahsil.*

The subdivision which takes its name from the headquarters town occupies the central portion of the district; it is bounded on the north by the Domariaganj and Bansi tahsils, on the east by Khalilabad, on the west by Haraiya, and on the south by the river Ghagra, which separates it from Fyzabad. The tract is composed of four parganas, Basti East, Nagar East, Mahuli West and Maghar West, each of which forms the subject of a separate article. The total area, according to the latest official returns, is 345,989 acres or 541 square miles, and of this 247,413, acres were cultivated in 1905.

The tahsil is of somewhat irregular shape, having a length of about 30 miles from north to south, while in breadth it varies from eight to 20 miles. The country in the south consists of the alluvial belt along the Ghagra, at some time or other occupied by the changing bed of that river; while beyond this, and separated

by the strip of sandy land which marks the crest of the old high bank, is the central upland or *uparhar* tract of loam soil which extends to the northern border, changing into a heavy clay in pargana Maghar West. In addition to the Ghagra, the tahsil is drained by several streams. In the north-west corner flows the Ami, meandering across Maghar West in a shallow bed with a south-easterly direction. The Garehia marks with its tortuous channel the boundary between Maghar West and Basti East, and then joins the Katnehia. The latter rises in the north of Basti East, and pursues a south-easterly course to form the boundary between this tahsil and Khalilabad for a considerable distance. The Kuwana, flowing between high and firm banks, winds along the western border, and then separates Basti East from Nagar East, afterwards passing through Mahuli West towards the Ghagra. Near Lalganj it is joined by the Manwar, which traverses the centre of Nagar East, receiving the overflow from the large Chandi Tal.

The tahsil is administered as a subdivision in the charge of a full-powered magistrate of the district staff, and for the purposes of civil administration belongs to the Basti *munsifi* in the judgeship of Gorakhpur. There is a tahsildar with his headquarters at Basti, who exercises magisterial and revenue powers of the third and second class respectively. Under the present arrangement, the tahsil includes four whole police circles, with stations at Basti, Sonhan, Kalwari, Barakoni, as well as portions of the Budhabandh, Mahuli, Dudhara and Rudhauli circles, the headquarters of the last lying within the tahsil. The alterations in this scheme, which are shortly to take effect, have been mentioned in Chapter IV.

At the census of 1872 the tahsil had a population of 313,327 persons. This rose to 335,551 in 1881, and to 377,935 at the following census, the increase during the ten years being the greatest in the district. At the last enumeration of 1901 the number of inhabitants was 393,079, of whom 192,887 were females. The average density is very great, amounting to 732 to the square mile, while in the south it exceeds 900. Classified according to religions, there were 343,102 Hindus, 49,889 Musalmans, 49 Christians, 23 Aryas, 14 Sikhs and two Jains. The prevailing Hindu castes are Chamars, 68,978; Kurmis,

52,597; Brahmans, 43,554; Ahirs, 35,221; Rajputs, 12,142, and Banias, 10,791. Besides these, Kahars, Bhars, Dhobis, Telis, Koeris, and Barhais occur in numbers exceeding five thousand. The Rajputs belong to several different clans, but the chief are the Gautams, Surajbansis, Kalhans and Bais. Of the Musalmans, the most numerous are Pathans, 11,235, while Behnas, Sheikhs, and Julahas make up the bulk of the remainder. Like the rest of the district, the tahsil is mainly agricultural, the census returns showing 65 per cent. as directly dependent on cultivation, while the actual proportion is considerably larger.

The population is spread over no less than 2,152 inhabited sites; but except Basti, the headquarters of the tahsil and district there is no town and scarcely any large village. The principal markets for country produce are at Basti and Deoraon in pargana Basti East, Bahadurpur, Kalwari, and Nagar in Nagar East, and Lalganj and Gaighat in Mahuli West. But besides these, as will be seen from the list given in the appendix, there are many petty village bazars, where country produce finds a ready sale and simple necessaries can be purchased. The only manufactures of any note are the chintzes and gilt cloths prepared by the cotton printers of Bahadurpur and the printed fabrics of Lalganj. The trade is almost entirely confined to grain and other agricultural products; but in pargana Mahuli the traffic in cattle is also considerable.

Means of communication are better than in other parts of the district and almost every portion of the tahsil is within easy reach of one or other of the principal markets. Through the centre runs the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, on which there are stations at Munderwa and Basti. Close to the line lies the metalled road from Gorakhpur to Fyzabad, passing through the district headquarters. To the south are two unmetalled branches, one passing through Nagar and Kalwari to Tanda in Fyzabad, and the other leading from Munderwa through Mahuli West past the markets of Lalganj and Gaighat. Both these branches are crossed at Kalwari and Gaighat respectively by a similar road running almost parallel to the Ghagra, while the second is connected with Basti by the road to Mahuli. Several roads from the north converge on Basti, the chief being

the metalled highway to Rudhauli and Bansi, while others lead to Domariaganj and the Nepal border, and to Mehndawal and Karmaini-ghat on the Rapti. There are inspection bungalows at Basti, Munderwa, and Rudhauli, and at the two former places military encamping-grounds are maintained. The lists of post-offices, schools and fairs in the tahsil will be found in the appendix.

BELHAR KALAN, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

A large and scattered village which gives its name to one of the northern tappas of the pargana, lying in 26° 58′ N. and 83° 1′ E., on the road running from Bakhira to Rudhauli, at a distance of some 21 miles north-east from Basti. It is called Belhar Kalan to distinguish it from Belhar Khurd, an adjoining village on the west, and from Belhar Jangal on the east. The population is distributed over 17 hamlets, and at the last census numbered 3,036 persons, of whom 243 were Musalmans, the prevailing caste being Bhuinhars. There were also 1,606 inhabitants in Belhar Khurd and 307 in Belhar Jangal. There is an upper primary school here, but no other public institution. The place contains two temples and a ruined *thakurdwara*; small fairs are held on the occasion of the Ramlila and Ramnaumi festivals, and also in the month of Jeth in honour of Saiyid Salar. The village lands are extensive and the soil is good, producing excellent wheat and sugarcane as well as rice. The revenue demand is Rs. 2,304, and about half the area is cultivated by the proprietors. The latter are Bhuinhars and Tiwari Brahmans. Tradition relates that the village was formerly held by Rajputs, one of whom, named Mema Singh, refused to acknowledge the supremacy of the Bansi Raja: the latter consequently called in some Tiwaris from Benares, who overthrew Mema Singh and were rewarded with the grant of the village and the title of Thakurai. This happened in the days of Nawabi rule, and the appellation of Thakurai is still borne by the *zamindars*.

BHANPUR, *Pargana* RASULPUR, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This village belongs to tappa Chhapia in the south of the pargana, and must not be confused with the capital of tappa

Bhanpur to the north-west. It is situated in 27° 2′ N. and 82° 40′ E., on the west side of the road from Basti to Domariaganj, at a distance of 19 miles from the former and 13 miles from the tahsil headquarters. A small branch road connects the place with Rudhauli, some eight miles to the east. The population in 1872 numbered 930 souls; but at the last census there were 1,376 inhabitants, of whom 156 were Musalmans. The principal residents are Sarnet Rajputs, connected with the house of Bansi. The chief proprietors are, however, Kayasths, who were formerly in the service of the Bansi Raja. Till recently they lived in a fine house, standing on high ground and surrounded by a moat; but owing to internal feuds they now live separately and the building has fallen into ruins. The temple, which stands within a walled garden, is a handsome edifice; but the surroundings are dirty and the bazar has a squalid and neglected appearance. There is a large upper primary school here and a small aided institution for girls; the former was at one time of the middle standard, but has degenerated with the place, although the attendance has increased of late years, owing partly to the exertions of the Sarnet *zamindars*. The latter possess a considerable property in the neighbourhood, Babu Sheo Prasad Singh owning 2,685 acres, while smaller amounts are held by Nirpat Singh and others. The village lands of Bhanpur itself cover 375 acres, of which some 240 acres are cultivated, half by the Kayasth proprietors and half by tenants; the revenue demand is Rs. 428.

BHARI, *Pargana* RASULPUR, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This is a village of tappa Sagara, lying in 27° 9′ N. and 82° 42′ E., some five miles south-east from Domariaganj and three miles to the east of the Basti road, being 30 miles distant from the district headquarters. At the last census it contained 930 inhabitants, of whom 272 were Musalmans. The majority of the Hindus are Brahmans, who are also the proprietors of the village; the total area is 1,032 acres, of which some 860 acres are cultivated, the rent-roll being Rs. 2,294 and the revenue Rs. 956. One share is held by a Musalman.

Bhari is only remarkable for the large bathing fair, which is held on the full moon of Kartik at the large tank to the south of

the main site. This tank is reputed to have been one of the favourite bathing-places of Krishna, and at the north-west corner is a temple. As is the case with most of these assemblages, the attendance has shown a marked decline of late years; in 1875 it was about 50,000, while now it does not average more than 12,000. During the continuance of the fair the place is crowded with the booths of pedlars, confectioners and other dealers in cheap trifles. The place is doubtless of some antiquity, as beside the tank there is a mound of brick ruins, apparently the remains of ancient temples. The mound is of irregular shape, some 400 yards from north to south and 350 yards from east to west. Around it are several smaller tanks and traces of a few detached buildings. The place was noticed by Buchanan, who considered it to represent a large house or castle; but it has never been excavated. The full name of the village is Bharat Bhari, the enclosure or shrine of Bharat, brother of Rama; but a local tradition states that it is derived from an eponymous hero of Tharu extraction.

BINAYAKPUR *Pargana, Tahsil* BANSI.

This, the smallest pargana of the district, occupies the north-eastern corner of the Bansi tahsil, and consists of a stretch of lowlying rice country with a total area of 31,006 acres or 48 square miles. It is bounded on the north-east by Nepalese territory, on the north-west, west and south-west by pargana Bansi East, and on the south-east by the river Ghunghi, which separates it from the Gorakhpur district. The original fiscal subdivision of Binayakpur was far larger, and the greater part still belongs to Gorakhpur; only the two western tappas, Bhatinpar in the north and Netwar in the south, were cut off to form a new pargana at the constitution of the Basti district in 1865.

Several streams which have their origin in the hills or the Tarai of Nepal flow through the pargana or along its borders. In addition to the Ghunghi, there is the Tilar, which bounds it on the west; the Tinawa which flows westwards across it to join the Tilar, the combined stream afterwards becoming the Kunhra; and the Hagni, which runs through the south-eastern portion almost parallel with the Ghunghi. There are several other small affluents of the Tilar, the chief being that which forms the

southern boundary of the Dulha grant in the north. The surface of the country is dotted with numerous lagoons, but none are of great size ; both these and the rivers are utilized for irrigation purposes, though as a rule the soil is so moist that little artificial watering is required. As a whole, the pargana closely resembles the adjoining portions of Bansi East, and the soil is very similar: it consists of loam and clay in about equal proportions, while there is a fair amount of the fertile silt known as *bhat* along the Kunhra. Of the two tappas, Netwar is perhaps the better.

The cultivated area is large, amounting in 1905 to 25,225 acres, or 81·4 per cent. of the whole, a proportion which considerably exceeds that of any other pargana of the district. The double-cropped area, moreover, is very extensive, amounting to 12,664 acres in the same year. Of the remainder, 2,824 acres are returned as culturable, including 571 acres under groves; and 2,957 acres as barren, though of this the greater part is under water, and all the rest save 69 acres is occupied by village sites, roads, and the like. As already mentioned, the irrigated area is extremely small; in ordinary years no irrigation is required, but in times of drought the rivers can be utilized, and wells can be constructed without difficulty. The chief staple is rice, mainly of the *jarhan* variety, and the only other *kharif* crop of any importance is *arhar*. In the *rabi*, wheat, *gujai*, barley, oilseeds, and peas constitute the bulk of the harvest.

The chief cultivating castes are Brahmans, followed by Musalmans, Ahirs, Kurmis, Rajputs and Chamars. No less than 8,500 acres are tilled by the proprietors, and the proportion of tenant-held land is consequently low. Rents are generally the same as in the adjoining pargana of Bansi East. The revenue demand at successive settlements will be found in the appendix.* In early days it was very small, as before the cession this part of the country used to belong to the Butwal Rajas, and during the 18th century was the centre of constant struggles between them and the Rajas of Bansi. In 1801, when the tract came under the British rule, Binayakpur was an almost unbroken forest, and no great development occurred till the introduction of the grant system. At the last settlement an enhancement of nearly

* Appendix, Table IX.

50 per cent. was taken; but the average incidence remained low, and the pressure of the demand at the present time is decidedly light.

The population of the pargana at the last census numbered 15,247 persons, of whom 11,274 were Hindus, 3,961 Musalmans, and 12 of other religions. The average density is only 319 to the square mile, and the people are distributed over 135 sites, all of which are small. Dulha in the north has a large population, but this merely consists of a collection of numerous hamlets, as is the case with the other jungle grants. The largest single village is Netwar, with but 884 inhabitants. Lotan, the only market of any importance, is still smaller: it lies on one of the roads from Uska to Nepal, and contains a police-station and a traffic registration post. Two roads lead south from Lotan to Gorakhpur and Rigauli, but the only other road within the pargana is that running north-west from Lotan to Birdpur, crossing the Tilar near Neora.

At the present time there are 109 villages, and of these 15 are owned by single proprietors, 21 are held in joint *zamindari* tenure, one is *bhaiyachara*, and the remaining 72 are imperfect *pattidari*. A single village is in the possession of *birtia* under-proprietors. Among the landowners Brahmans and Rajputs predominate, their chief estates being those of the Shukul Brahmans of Bura and Khairanti in Bhatinpar, and those of the Kalhans Rajputs of Lotan and Ekdinga. Actually the largest property is the European estate of Dulha, comprising 5,218 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 6,912.

BIRDPUR, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

Birdpur is the name of the principal European estate in the Bansi tahsil, and comprises the greater part of tappa Ghaus. It was originally treated as a single village, but is now divided into fourteen *mauzas*, with an aggregate area of 29,316 acres and a total population of 28,450 persons. Birdpur proper, which is called after Mr. R. M. Bird, who in 1829 became Commissioner of Gorakhpur, lies in grant IX, which contained 2,652 inhabitants; but even these do not all live in one village, but are scattered among numerous hamlets. The chief site lies

in 27° 23′ N. and 83° 7′ E., on the west side, and near the termination of the metalled road from Uska, at a distance of seven miles from Naugarh station and 54 miles from Basti. In addition to the proprietors' fine house, there is a private dispensary, a post-office, and a small bazar in which markets are held weekly. Some account of the estate has been given in Chapter III, and the system of canals has been separately described.

BISKOHAR, *Pargana* BANSI WEST, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This small town lies on the western borders of the pargana and district, in 27° 22′ N. and 82° 34′ E., at a distance of eleven miles north-west from Domariaganj and fifty miles from Basti. A somewhat circuitous route, running through Singarjot, whence a branch goes to Utraula in Gonda, connects it with the tahsil headquarters, while a cart-track leads westwards to Tulsipur. Biskohar was once a place of some importance, as one of the principal entrepôts for the Nepal trade; it is still fairly prosperous, but has undergone a decline owing to the diversion of much of the traffic to Naugarh and Uska since the extension of the railway to those markets. Up to the year 1861 a large number of hillmen used to be encamped in the neighbouring grove to the east; but the establishment of certain privileged marts in the Nepal Tarai, and the prohibition against trading through any other emporia, dealt a serious blow to the welfare of the town. The imports consist chiefly of unhusked rice, wheat, and other grains, *ghi*, drugs and spices; while the exports which find their way through Biskohar to Nepal are cotton twist, piecegoods, hardware, sugar and tobacco.

At the census of 1872 the town contained 2,839 inhabitants. This dropped to 2,686 in 1881, but rose again to 3,112 at the next census. In 1901 the population numbered 2,725, of whom 2,004 were Hindus, 719 Musalmans, and two of other religions. Banias are the prevailing Hindu caste, and several of them live in substantial houses and appear to be prosperous, though there are few signs of brisk trade. The main street of the town is very narrow, but beyond this the roads are wider, and the houses and shops less crowded together. The place possesses a post-office, a cattle-pound, and a large upper primary school.

The market is held daily. The village lands cover 462 acres, of which about 340 are cultivated, the staple crop being *jarhan* rice. The revenue is Rs. 560, and the proprietor is Bhaiya Jai Mangal Singh, a Janghara or Hara Rajput, whose ancestors are said to have come to the district with the Sarnets of Bansi. They obtained an estate of several villages from the Raja, but only three remain in the possession of the present head of the family. He is a lenient landlord and very popular with his tenants; though heavily embarrassed, he does not enhance their rents. Another branch of the family resides at Mehnani in tappa Kot of the same pargana.

Biskohar has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since 1872. In 1906 there were 573 houses in the town, of which 394 were assessed. The income from the house-tax for the three years prior to that date has averaged Rs. 890, giving an incidence of Rs. 2-6-4 per assessed house and Re. 0-5-4 per head of population; while the total income from all sources, including the available balance, was Rs. 1,058. The expenditure is chiefly devoted to the maintenance of the town police force, Rs. 408, conservancy, Rs. 216, and small local improvements, Rs. 84; the total average expenditure for the same period being Rs. 824.

BUDHABANDH, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

Budhabandh is the name given to a police-station situated in 26° 47′ N. and 82° 56′ E., at a distance of 14 miles from Basti and eight miles from Khalilabad, at the point where the provincial road crosses the Katnehia river. The *thana* was established here owing to the turbulent character of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, several dacoities having taken place on the road. It has answered its purpose, as such crimes are now rare, and under the new scheme it is proposed to move the station to Bardand, amalgamating the circle with that of Barakoni. In addition to the station, there is a post-office, a cattle-pound built in 1903, and an aided school. The police-station lies within the limits of Budha Khurd, which contained a population of 32 persons at the last census and is practically a hamlet of Budha Kalan, a larger site to the north. The latter had 758 inhabitants, including 77

Musalmans and a number of Brahmans and Banias. The village lands, which cover 464 acres, of which about 400 are cultivated, are held by Brahmans at a revenue of Rs. 734. Budha belongs to tappa Ujiar, lying in the extreme south of the pargana.

CAPTAINGANJ, *Pargana* NAGAR WEST, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

This village probably derives its name from the fact that during the Oudh administration or for a short time after the introduction of British rule it was a small military station. It lies in tappa Nawai on the south side of the provincial road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur, in 26° 45′ N. and 82° 35′ E., at a distance of nine miles west from Basti. In Buchanan's time it contained but 25 shops, but it rose in importance as the seat of a tahsildar and a munsif. The tahsil was removed to Haraiya in 1876, and from that time Captainganj declined. It still possesses a police-station, a post-office, a lower primary school, and a cattle-pound erected in 1896. The *thana* is located in the old tahsil building, which was the scene of fighting during the mutiny; and in an adjoining grove are the remains of the house once occupied by the officer commanding the troops. This was for several years used as the munsif's court, but since the transfer of the latter to Haraiya, it has been allowed to fall into ruins. In the village is a handsome mosque, recently erected by one of the Musalman inhabitants; it is an artistic structure, and was built by skilled artizans at a considerable cost. The old *surai* on the east of the village is still kept in use. The population at the last census numbered 1,015 souls, of whom 320 were Musalmans; the prevailing castes being Kunjras and Koeris. The village has an area of 238 acres, of which about 190 are cultivated; the revenue is Rs. 356, and the proprietor is the Raja of Bansi, whose predecessor obtained it as a gift from Government after the mutiny. The old name of the revenue *mauza* is Raitas.

CHHAONI, *Pargana* AMORHA, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

Chhaoni stands on the metalled road from Basti to Fyzabad, at a distance of 22 miles from the former and five miles west of the tahsil headquarters. It is a hamlet of the revenue village of Khan Kalan, belonging to tappa Belwa, and situate in 26°

47′ N. and 82° 23′ E. As its name implies, Chhaoni was once a cantonment, but it was maintained as such only for a short period after the cession of the district, the troops being replaced by a detachment of police, originally stationed in the neighbouring village of Khamaria. The village was the scene of an engagement between Colonel Rowcroft's force and the mutineers on the 17th of April 1858, and the tomb of Lieutenant H. B. Troup, who was killed on that occasion, is preserved at Chhaoni by the Public Works department. There is also a small monument in memory of the soldiers who fell at the same time, but it bears no inscription. Chhaoni possesses a police-station, occupying the site of the old barracks, a large upper primary school, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population at the last census numbered 549 persons, of whom 149 were Musalmans, the prevailing castes being Ahirs and Kahars. The proprietary right is divided between Brahmans and Musalmans, but the village is extremely small and has an area of only 32 acres.

CHHAPIA, *Pargana* RASULPUR, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This village, which gives its name to a tappa in the south of the pargana, lies in 27° 5′ N. and 82° 39′ E., at a distance of 23 miles north from Basti and nine miles south from the tahsil headquarters. Chhapia itself is an altogether unimportant place, but the name is given to a police-station, post-office and cattle-pound, which actually lie within the village of Asnahra, a short distance to the west of Chhapia, on the road from Basti to Domariaganj. At the last census the population of Chhapia was but 198; the village lands cover 192 acres, of which about 160 acres are cultivated, chiefly by Kurmis and the Brahman proprietors, and are assessed at Rs. 283. Asnahra contained 199 inhabitants; and adjoining them on the south is the large village of Narkhoria, with a school and a population of 1,851 persons.

CHHITIA, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

This village lies in 27° 15′ N. and 82° 54′ E., about six miles north from Bansi on the road leading to Misraulia. It is situated in tappa Kondri on the western borders of the pargana,

between the Parasi and Burhi Rapti rivers. The place is chiefly remarkable as containing the remains of a fine *sal* jungle, being one of the few spots in this district where any real forest can now be seen, although less than a century ago most of the country was woodland. Chhitia is also well known as the seat of an old family of Tiwari Brahmans, who for many generations supplied Diwans to the Bansi Rajas. They obtained a fair estate by gift, but much of their property has passed away as the result of internal quarrels. Three members of the family still possess considerable holdings: Kishan Nath, with 6,932 acres; Damodar Nath, with 4,527; and Ugra Nath with 2,541 acres, the total revenue paid by them being Rs. 22,320. Chhitia itself covers 1,363 acres, but much of this is forest and only some 850 acres are cultivated; the revenue is Rs. 1,407. At the last census the population was 1,768, including 104 Musalmans and large numbers of Banias and Kurmis. There is a large upper primary school here and a local bazar in which markets are held weekly; the place is, however, somewhat cut off in the rains, when Bansi can only be reached by boat or elephant.

CHILIA, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

The headquarters of the northern police circle of the tahsil are located in a village of tappa Aikhin, lying in 27° 22′ N. and 83° 0′E., on the road that traverses the north of the district parallel to the Nepal frontier. Branch roads lead to Misraulia on the south-west and to Bansi on the south, the distance from the latter being 18 miles, and from the district headquarters 50 miles. Chilia is a fairly large agricultural village, with a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. Besides the police-station there is a post-office, a cattle-pound, and an aided school. The place is owned by a coparcenary community of Brahmans, and among the tenants Muhammadans, Brahmans and Banias preponderate. The total area is 634 acres, of which some 530 acres are under tillage; but owing to the large extent of proprietary cultivation the rent-roll is less than the revenue, which amounts to Rs. 740. The population at the last census numbered 1,169 souls, of whom 346 were Musalmans.

DHANGHATA, *Pargana* MAHULI EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

A village of tappa Mahthi, situated in 26° 33′ N. and 83° 0′ E., on the west side of the second class road running from Khalilabad to Chhapra-ghat on the Ghagra, a short distance south of its junction with the road which runs from Chhaoni parallel to the river through the south of the district, and 28 miles south-east from Basti. As is evident from the name, at one time Dhanghata stood on the banks of the Ghagra, but the river has receded to the south and is now four or five miles distant. Some trace of the old course exists in the large semi-circular *jhil*, known as the Dharua Tal, to the west and south of the village. Such lakes are common in the *kachhar* tract of the Ghagra, most of which is of alluvial nature, and is liable to inundation during the rains. Dhanghata is a place of no great size, the population at the last census being 735 persons, of whom 141 were Musalmans, the prevailing Hindu castes being Brahmans and Ahirs. It is only noticeable as being the headquarters of a police circle which includes the southern portion of the tahsil between the Kuwana and Ghagra. There is also a post-office, a cattle-pound and an aided school. The post-office and *thana* are in the north, near the junction of the roads. The village is owned by the Raja of Mahson, who pays a revenue of Rs. 350 on a rent-roll of Rs. 924. It includes an area of 208 acres of which about 155 are cultivated.

DHEBARUA, *Pargana* BANSI WEST, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

A village which gives its name to the northernmost tappa of the pargana, situated in 27° 27′ N. and 82° 48′ E., on the unmetalled road from Dhekahri to Chilia, at a distance of 59 miles from the district headquarters. Dhebarua lies in the centre of the rice lands of the Tarai, some three miles south of the Nepal frontier, and was almost inaccessible except in the dry season till the construction of the railway from Uska to Tulsipur, the station at Barhni being but three miles distant. The village contains a police-station, a cattle-pound, a branch post-office, and a lower primary school, which is in a far from flourishing condition. The place is naturally unhealthy and the population small, numbering at the last census 382 souls, of whom 32 were

Musalmans; Kurmis are the predominant Hindu caste. The village lands cover 391 acres, of which about 340 are cultivated. Late rice is the principal crop, and its cultivation is mainly carried on by the proprietors themselves, a family of Jats, through the agency of professional ploughmen, whose status is little better than that of serfs. They are bound to their masters for life, and in return obtain a small plot free of rent. Amongst the tenants proper the *halbandi* system prevails; this tenure, under which rent is paid at a fixed rate per plough, has been described in Chapter III.

DOMARIAGANJ, *Pargana* RASULPUR, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

The headquarters of the tahsil are located in a comparatively small village, situated in 27° 12′ N. and 82° 39′ E., on the south bank of the Rapti, at a distance of 32 miles from Basti. The village itself consists of a bazar about half a mile in length lying on either side of the unmetalled road from Basti to the Nepal frontier. This road is here joined by others from Bansi and Chandradip-ghat, while beyond the river, which is crossed by a bridge-of-boats during the dry season and by a ferry in the rains, a branch takes off leading to Singarjot and Biskohar. Domariaganj probably derives its name from the Domkatars who were, according to tradition, the former rulers of this tract. Nothing is, however, known of its history. In the early days of British rule the place was fortified, like Basti, with a ditch, a mud rampart, and a bamboo hedge, and the police-station was also prepared for defence; but these evidences of former insecurity have almost disappeared. Though the second bazar in the tahsil, after Biskohar, the place is of no great size. In 1872 the population was 1,145, and at the last census the total had risen to 1,477, of whom 660 were Musalmans; Banias are the prevailing Hindu caste. In addition to the tahsil buildings and the police-station, Domariaganj possesses a post-office, a lower primary school, a dispensary, an inspection bungalow, and a cattle-pound. The tahsili middle school is located at Halaur, a larger village which gives its name to the tappa and lies two miles to the south. The lands of Domariaganj are 265 acres in extent, and are assessed at Rs. 488; they form part of the estate owned by the Pandes of Gadawar, to whom reference has been made in Chapter III.

Near the inspection bungalow, in a mango grove, stands a masonry tomb bearing the names of Captain Arthur Gifford, second in command, and Trooper Adrian Curran, of the Bihar Yeomanry Cavalry, killed in an action with the mutineers on the 27th of November 1858.

DOMARIAGANJ *Tahsil.*

This is the north-western subdivision of the district and is composed of the two parganas of Bansi West and Rasulpur, each of which forms the subject of a separate article. The tahsil is bounded on the north by Nepalese territory, on the south by Basti, on the east by Bansi, and on the west by the Gonda district. The whole country is traversed by a network of rivers, streams and watercourses, and studded with numerous *tals* and ponds. Its two parganas are separated by the Parasi, to the north of which lies Bansi West, a stretch of rice country in which clay is the prevailing soil. In the extreme north it resembles the Tarai of Nepal, and throughout the pargana late rice is the staple crop, and the *rabi* is generally inferior and for the most part grown without irrigation. There are large grassy plains interspersed with thickets of wild rose and thorny scrub along the Burhi Rapti, and in the lower courses of the Parasi and Sikri are to be seen remnants of a *mahua* and *sal* forest. The whole of the drainage of this tract passes into the Burhi Rapti, with the exception of a small strip along the Parasi. South of the latter is Rasulpur, a more fully cultivated and developed pargana. It is divided by the Rapti into two distinct parts; that to the north being rice country, draining into the Parasi and Akrari streams; while to the south is a level expanse with a generally fertile soil, belonging to the central upland plain of the district. The Rapti has high banks, and consequently but little drainage is sent into it from this tract, the surplus water passing into the Ami, Garehia, Kuwana and their tributaries. Loam is the prevalent soil, but along the Rapti, Burhi Rapti, and Banganga is found the fertile alluvial silt known as *bhat*.

The total area of the tahsil is at present 374,902 acres or 586 square miles. The land under cultivation has increased from 256,900 acres at the last settlement to 272,339 acres in

1905. In the north very little irrigation is required, while in the south there is a fairly adequate supply from the lakes, tanks, watercourses and wells. The revenue demand varies from time to time owing to the large number of alluvial *mahals* along the Rapti, which are subject to quinquennial revision; in 1889 it was Rs. 3,72,678, and the figure in 1905 was Rs. 3,77,390.

The tahsil is administered as a subdivision in the charge of a full-powered officer of the district staff. Civil jurisdiction is entrusted to the munsif of Bansi, who is subordinate to the judge of Gorakhpur. A tahsildar with revenue and criminal powers of the second and third classes, respectively, is stationed at Domariaganj; and Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar is an honorary magistrate for the Intwa and Dhebarua police circles. There are three other circles in the tahsil with headquarters at Domariaganj, Tilakpur, and Chhapia; but this arrangement will be somewhat modified under the new scheme, as already mentioned in Chapter IV.

At the census of 1872, the first taken after the constitution of the Basti district, the tahsil had a population of 259,047 persons. The total rose to 280,254 in 1881, and ten years later a further large increase was observed, the number of inhabitants being 313,090. In 1901 the population numbered 322,321, of whom 159,314 were females, the density being on an average 550 to the square mile. Classified according to religions, there were 240,238 Hindus, 82,066 Musalmans, 12 Aryas, four Sikhs and one Christian. The number of Musalmans is greater, both absolutely and relatively, than in any other subdivision of the district; their presence is due to recent migration rather than to any former Muhammadan domination of the tract. Among the Hindus, the best represented castes are Chamars, 45,389; Ahirs, 32,799; Brahmans, 28,362; Kurmis, 18,373; and Muraos, 10,881. Besides these, Banias, Kahars, Luniyas, Barhais, and Dhobis were found in numbers exceeding five thousand. The Rajput population is small, being only 4,040, and no clan is specially remarkable, the chief being Bachhils, Surajbansis and Bisens. Among the Musalmans, however, Rajputs predominate with a total of 14,677; the chief subdivisions being Chauhans, Bais, Panwars, Bisens, and Gautams. Next come Sheikhs, 11,057; Faqirs, 10,167;

Pathans, 7,024; Nau-Muslims, 6,286; and Julahas, 5,312. The population is almost wholly agricultural, and is distributed over a large number of small villages and hamlets. Nearly 68 per cent. of the whole number were recorded as directly dependent on agriculture, while the actual proportion is considerably larger. General labour accounts for nine per cent., while of the industrial occupations the chief are cotton-weaving, work in pottery and earthenware, and in wood, cane, and other jungle produce.

There are no towns of any size in the tahsil, the chief being Biskohar and Domariaganj. The former is administered under Act XX of 1856 and used be to an important centre of the commerce with Nepal. This traffic was, however, largely diverted when Uska became a railway depôt, and the extension of the branch line through the north of the tahsil has had a still greater effect, tending to the creation of new markets and the disappearance of the through trade to Nawabganj in Gonda. Communications formerly were very deficient, but matters have been greatly improved of late years. There are railway stations at Barhni and Parsa, the former already possessing a flourishing bazar. None of the roads are metalled, and even the most important—that from Basti to Domariaganj and to the Nepal border—is liable to be submerged during the rains. Another largely frequented highway is that connecting Domariaganj and Bansi, and this is passable in most seasons. The remaining roads, the chief of which are those from Biskohar to Bansi and Domariaganj; from Dhekahri to Chilia, with a branch from Dhebarua to Bansi; from Intwa to Misraulia and Chilia; and from Domariaganj to Chandradip-ghat and Nawabganj, are little better than cart tracks and are serviceable only in the dry season. During the rains boats are required nearly everywhere, communication being only possible by their means or on elephants. The rivers are usually crossed by ferries, of which a list will be found in the appendix, though in the dry weather bridges of boats are maintained on the Rapti at Domariaganj and Bitharia, while temporary bridges of piles and brushwood are made over the small streams. Other lists will be found in the appendix showing the post-office, schools, markets, and fairs of the tahsil. There are inspection bungalows at Domariaganj and Intwa.

DUBAULIA, *Pargana* AMORHA, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

A considerable village in the south of the pargana, giving its name to a large tappa. It lies in 26° 42′ N. and 82° 30′ E., on the unmetalled road which runs parallel to the Ghagra through the south of the district, at a distance of two miles north of the river, and 16 miles south-west from Basti. A short distance to the east of the village the road is joined by a branch leading to Captainganj on the provincial road and thence to Tinich railway station. Before the introduction of the railway Dubaulia was an important centre of the traffic carried along the Ghagra, which then flowed in a more northerly channel, close to the village. After the mutiny the place was confiscated on account of the rebellion of its owner, a Surajbansi Rajput named Debi Bakhsh Singh, and the land was afterwards settled with loyalists. Government, however, retained the right to collect the bazar dues, and these are now farmed on a long lease to the *zamindars*, Mir Inayat Husain and Nisar Husain, for Rs. 500 annually. From the income thus derived a police outpost for the watch and ward of the village and a conservancy staff are maintained. The village lands cover only 65 acres, of which about half is cultivated, the revenue being Rs. 78. Dubaulia possesses a post-office, a large upper primary school, an aided school for girls, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population has declined of late years, and in 1901 numbered 1,460 souls, including 358 Musalmans; the bulk of the inhabitants are Banias and Julahas, who monopolise the trade. The adjoining village of Khushalganj, practically a western continuation of Dubaulia, contained 729 residents, many of whom are Surajbansis.

DUDHARA, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

This is a village of tappa Ujiar, lying in 26° 53′ N. and 82° 57′ E., on the south side of the unmetalled road from Basti to Mehndawal, at a distance of sixteen miles from the district headquarters. Just beyond the sixteenth milestone stands the police-station, and hard by is the cattle-pound and a post-office. The village itself lies off the road and is unimportant, possessing neither school nor market. The population at the last census

numbered 1,467 persons, of whom no fewer than 1,104 were Muhammadans, this being one of the few villages in the district in which the Musalman element preponderates. Among the Hindus there is a considerable colony of Panwar Rajputs. There is a mosque in the village, and an *idgah* some distance to the west of the main site: a small Musalman fair takes place here in Jeth in honour of Saiyid Salar, but the attendance does not as a rule exceed a thousand persons. The lands of Dudhara include 707 acres, of which some 615 acres are cultivated; the proprietors are Musalmans, and the revenue demand is Rs. 1,145.

GAIGHAT, *Pargana* MAHULI WEST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

A market village on the western borders of the pargana, lying in tappa Charkaila on the unmetalled road which passes through the south of the district, running parallel to the Ghagra and connecting the Gonda and Gorakhpur frontiers. It is situated in 26° 37′ N. and 82° 45′ E., at a distance of sixteen miles from Basti. A short distance to the east of the village the road is joined by the branch from Lalganj and Munderwa. As its name implies, Gaighat was once on the Ghagra; but the river now flows four miles further south, and with the change the importance of the place has disappeared. The railway has further contributed towards its decline, though the market is still a fairly busy one, being a collecting and distributing centre for the local river-borne trade in grain and other articles. The place contains a post-office, cattle-pound, and a large upper primary school. The population, which in 1872 numbered 1,689 souls, had risen at the last census to 2,034, of whom 464 were Musalmans, the preponderating Hindu castes being Banias and Brahmans. The village lands cover 565 acres, of which only 380 acres are cultivated, much of the remainder being taken up by a large *jhil* to the north of the main site.

GANESHPUR, *Pargana* NAGAR WEST, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

A very large and scattered village in the north of the pargana, comprising the greater portion of the tappa of the same name. It lies in 26° 49′ N. and 82° 41′ E., some three miles north-west of the civil station of Basti, between the Rawai on the south, the

Kuwana on the east, and the small stream known as the Majhora on the north. The population, which is distributed over a large central site and a number of scattered hamlets, amounted to 2,550 in 1872, but at the last census had risen to 4,745, of whom 1,201 were Musalmans. The village possesses a flourishing upper primary school and two bazars, in one of which markets are held on Sundays and Thursdays, and in the other on Wednesdays.

Ganeshpur is the headquarters of a large permanently-settled estate known as the Pindari *jagir*. It was originally owned by a branch of the Nagar Gautams, who fortified the place with a ditch, a mud wall, and a thick bamboo hedge, and in this manner were enabled to hold their own during the days of native rule. After the cession, however, they fell into arrears with their revenue and in 1811-12 the property was sold by Government. It appears to have been purchased by Mrs. Fidden, the widow of one of those trading doctors who in the early days of the Company's rule did so much to promote the commercial prosperity of places in which they happened to be posted. She was, however, unable to manage the estate, and either sold it herself, or forced Government to do so on account of revenue unpaid. In 1818 it once more came under the hammer, and for the same reason, the defaulter being Bibi Moti Khanam. Just at this time the Company wished to provide for Qadir Bakhsh, a turbulent soldier of fortune and a leader in the army of Amir Khan Pindari, who had distinguished himself during the Maratha wars; a man whom, though he might have been suppressed with a strong hand, it was cheaper to steady by the gift of a comfortable property. Accordingly Government bought in Ganeshpur for Rs. 8,343 and bestowed it on the Pindari, the terms being that he himself should hold it free of revenue, and that his heirs should pay a light and unalterable demand. The grant is still in the possession of his descendants, who have brought it into a most flourishing condition, in spite of frequent quarrels among themselves. At the settlement in 1864 the settlement officer ruled that they were holding illegally, without additional payment, many villages besides those originally bestowed; and accordingly fixed an assessment of Rs. 10,009 on the whole domain. The Pindaris, however, resisted the claim, and eventually won their case in the Privy

Council, so that the almost nominal revenue of Rs. 1,877 remains unaltered.

HAINSAR, *Pargana* MAHULI EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

Hainsar is one of several bazars in this district which in former days were of considerable importance on account of the river-borne traffic which passes through them. It is the chief village of tappa Kuchri, lying in 26° 33′ N. and 83° 3′ E., on the north side of the unmetalled road which traverses the south of the district parallel to the Ghagra, at a distance of three miles east from Dhanghata and about 31 miles from Basti. The Ghagra now flows some distance to the south, and the place has in consequence declined. The bazar itself stands on high ground, but the surrounding country is low and liable to inundation during the rains. At the time of the mutiny Hainsar belonged to a Surajbansi named Lal Jagat Bahadur; but on account of his rebellion, the property was confiscated and bestowed on loyalists, from whom it has descended to the present Pande *zamindars*. The right to collect bazar dues, however, was retained by Government; they are at present leased for Rs. 177 annually, and the income is chiefly devoted to conservancy arrangements. The village lands include an area of 226 acres, of which 160 are cultivated, the revenue being Rs. 444. The population at the last census numbered 1,951 persons, of whom 342 were Musalmans. Besides the bazar, in which markets are held twice a week and a considerable business is still done in grain, cloth, and the blankets which are here manufactured, Hainsar contains a large and flourishing upper primary school and an aided school for girls. On the summit of the high ground are to be seen the ruins of the house in which the former *zamindars* resided.

HARAIYA, *Pargana* AMORHA, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

The place which gives its name to the south-western tahsil is a mere village lying in 26° 47′ N. and 82° 28′ E., near the left bank of the Manwar river and on the provincial road from Gorakhpur to Fyzabad, at a distance of 17 miles west from Basti. The Manwar, which the road here crosses by a bridge, is navigable for the greater part of the year, but is now seldom used as a trade route.

There is, however, a fair amount of trade done in the Haraiya bazar, in which markets are held twice a week: the chief articles of commerce are grain, cloth and metal vessels. Haraiya only rose to importance in 1876, when the headquarters of the tahsil were removed hither from Captainganj. The tahsil building has an imposing front, standing on the roadside, and includes the police-station. Other institutions of the place comprise the post-office the middle vernacular school, a dispensary, an inspection bungalow, and a cattle-pound. The village at the last census contained 842 inhabitants, including 215 Musalmans, and a number of Banias and Khatiks. The proprietors are Pande Brahmans, who pay a revenue of Rs. 223 on a total area of 114 acres.

HARAIYA *Tahsil.*

This is the south-western subdivision of the district, and is made up of the three parganas of Amorha, Basti West, and Nagar West, each of which has been separately described. The tahsil is subdivided into 15 tappas and 1,571 villages, and the area in 1905 was 320,194 acres or 500 square miles. This figure is liable to change from year to year owing to the action of the Ghagra, and since the survey which preceded the last settlement the variation has amounted to more than 2,000 acres. The land under cultivation in 1905 was 217,262 acres or nearly 69 per cent. of the whole.

The tahsil is bounded on the north and west by the Gonda district, on the east by tahsil Basti, and on the south by the Ghagra, which separates it from Fyzabad. In its general appearance, it is a slightly undulating stretch of country, intersected by a network of streams, winding channels, and numerous lakes; the last are for the most part long, narrow, and tortuouslike rivers, of sufficient depth to retain water for a considerable time; and all of these afford abundant irrigation to the neighbouring villages in normal years. Of the total cultivated area some 58 per cent. was returned as irrigated at the time of settlement, and since then the number of wells has increased, means of irrigation being ample except in the sandy tract, where wells are of little use and other sources are wanting. The chief streams of the tahsil, in addition to the Ghagra, are the Kuwana, which flows along the eastern border; its affluent, the Rawai, which passes

through Basti West and Nagar West; and the Manwar, fed by the Ramrekha and other small tributaries. The Manwar divides the tahsil into two tracts; that to the south consisting of the alluvial *kachhar* of the Ghagra, while to the north is the upland plain or *uparhar*. The former is of an uneven character, but generally the soil is a grey loam, fertile, easily worked, and suitable for almost every kind of crop. It possesses great facilities for irrigation, as the water is near the surface, and wells of uncemented bricks can be constructed without difficulty; but though it forms the best part of the tahsil, the tract suffers in places from too much water, and in others from too much sand. The upland, too, exhibits considerable variations, commencing with a *bhur* ridge of unfertile sand, while beyond this the land is on the whole good, with a stiff loam soil, which produces excellent crops; water lies at no great depth from the surface, so that wells can easily be made, while the lakes and streams provide further facilities for irrigation.

The tahsil is administered as a subdivision in the charge of a full-powered magistrate on the district staff. There is a tahsildar with headquarters at Haraiya, who exercises magisterial and revenue powers of the third and second classes respectively, but at present there are no honorary magistrates in the tahsil. The civil jurisdiction is entrusted to the munsif of Basti, who is subordinate to the judge of Gorakhpur. For the purposes of police administration there are stations at Haraiya, Chhaoni, Parasrampur, Captainganj, and Paikaulia, while part of the tahsil lies within the circles of Basti and Sonhan.

The population at the census of 1872 was 305,222. The total rose to 334,378 in 1881, and ten years later to 351,609. The following decade saw a marked decline, for at the census of 1901 the number of inhabitants was 333,801, of whom 164,175 were females; but this still gave an average density of 667 to the square mile. Classified by religions, there were 306,429 Hindus, 27,306 Musalmans, 53 Sikhs, 12 Christians, and one Arya. The proportion of Musalmans is unusually low, and much less than in any other part of the district. Among the Hindus the prevailing castes are, in numerical order, Chamars, 53,030; Brahmans, 47,513; Ahirs, 32,484; Kurmis, 29,857; Rajputs, 21,099; and Banias, 11,911. Of the Rajputs nearly half belong to the

Surajbansi clan, while Kalhans, Gautams, and Bais also occur in large numbers. Other castes with over five thousand representatives are Kahars, Muraos, Barais, Lunias, Dhobis, Barhais, Telis and Nais. The chief Musalman castes are Julahas, Behnas, Pathans, and Sheikhs. The population is mainly agricultural, over 64 per cent. being directly dependent on cultivation; while the other industries are of the usual description and call for no special notice.

There are in the tahsil no fewer than 2,384 inhabited sites. Several of these are sometimes included in one *mauza*; but, even so, there is not a village of any great size except Ganeshpur. There are many bazars for the disposal of the country produce; but most of them are small, and Dubaulia alone possesses any importance, unless possibly Haraiya itself be added. Communications are, however, good, and the large markets of Fyzabad and Nawabganj in Gonda are within easy reach. The metalled road from Gorakhpur to Fyzabad passes through the centre of the tahsil, while pargana Basti West is traversed by the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, on which are stations at Gaur, Tinich and Babhnau. These are the two main routes of traffic, but there are also several unmetalled roads. Among the latter the most important comprise that from Bikramjot on the provincial road to Paikaulia, Gaur, and Sonhan; from Chhaoni to Dubaulia and Kalwari, and thence into the Gorakhpur district, running parallel to the Ghagra; and from Tinich to Captainganj, Dubaulia, and the Sarwa ferry over the Ghagra. The provincial road is bridged throughout its length in this tahsil, and except in the rains the people have no difficulty in carting their surplus produce to the different bazars. The traffic is mainly in grain, and there are no manufactures of even local importance. The Ghagra furnishes another trade route, and even the Manwar is navigable for half the year; but the traffic on both is small and constantly diminishing. The lists of the ferries, markets, fairs, schools, and post-offices of the tahsil will be found in the appendix. There are inspection bungalows at Haraiya and Bikramjot, and military encamping-gounds are maintained at Haraiya and Captainganj.

HARIHARPUR, *Pargana* MAHULI EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

A village of tappa Auradand, lying on the left bank of the Katnehia in 26° 40′ N. and 83° 1′ E., some three miles north of Mahuli and about 21 miles south-east from Basti. The place is of considerable size, and possesses a few good masonry houses; formerly it appears to have been of some commercial importance, but its trade has declined, like that of most towns in the pargana. The population, which in 1872 numbered 2,194, had risen at the last census to 2,937, including 234 Musalmans. Adjoining Hariharpur on the west, and with it forming practically a single site, is Sawapar, which contained 1,074 inhabitants. The village possesses a flourishing middle vernacular school, a post-office, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week; there is an aided girls' school in Sawapar. The lands of Hariharpur are 434 acres in extent, but only 250 are cultivated, the surrounding country lying low and being liable to inundation during the rains; the revenue is Rs. 507. A large fair is held here on the occasion of the Dhanusjag festival in Aghan, and a smaller assemblage takes place at the Ramlila in Kuar. The village belongs to a family of Surajbansis, sprung from a younger son of a former Raja of Mahson or Mahuli. The eldest representative of the Hariharpur house is Babu Kalka Bakhsh Pal, who owns 2,463 acres in this district.

INTWA, *Pargana* BANSI WEST, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This small village lies in the extreme west of tappa Kot in 27° 20′ N. and 82° 42′ E., at a distance of ten miles north from Domariaganj and 42 miles from Basti. It derives what little importance it possesses from its situation at the junction of several roads. Through it runs that from Domariaganj and Basti to Dhekahri and the Nepal frontier, and this is crossed here by the road from Bansi to Biskohar. For this reason it was selected as the headquarters of a police circle, though under the new scheme the *thana* will be moved to Misraulia, some eight miles to the east on the Bansi road. Besides the police-station, Intwa contains an inspection bungalow, a post-office, a cattle-pound, and a small aided school. There is an insignificant bazar, from which most of the traffic has been diverted on account of the railway. The population at the last census numbered 253 persons, of whom

20 were Musalmans, the remainder being chiefly Kurmis and Ahirs. The late proprietor was Mathura Prasad, a Kasaundhan Bania of Alinagar in Gorakhpur, and his estate, which comprises 2,830 acres in this pargana, is now managed on behalf of his widow by the court of wards. The village has an area of 558 acres, mostly rice land, and is assessed at Rs. 708.

JIGNAN, *Pargana* BANSI WEST, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

A small village of tappa Kop, situated in 27° 24′ N. and 82° 42′ E., on the branch road from Biskohar to Dhekahri, at a distance of 15 miles from the tahsil headquarters, 47 miles from Basti and a mile to the south of the Burhi Rapti. The sole importance of the place lies in the temple dedicated to Rama, for the upkeep of which the revenue of the village is assigned. Pilgrims come hither from Ajodhya and less distant places in the month of Aghan to celebrate the Dhanusjag or feast of the bow. The fair in former days used to attract some 35,000 persons, but of late years the attendance has greatly declined, and now averages little more than 2,500. The temple, too, has fallen into disrepair, and it is possible that the grant will have to be resumed unless the condition of maintenance is observed. The population of Jignan at the last census was but 115 souls, one-third of whom are Barais, or *pan*-growers.

KAKRAHI-GHAT, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

This small village of tappa Hata derives its importance solely from its position. It lies in 27° 14′ N. and 82° 59′ E., at a distance of six miles from Bansi and 38 miles from the district headquarters. It marks the present junction of the Burhi Rapti and Banganga rivers, and here the road from Bansi to Nepal crosses the combined stream by ferry or ford, according to the season. Beyond the river the road branches into three, one going north to Chilia, another north-east to Naugarh and Birdpur, and the third east to Lotan. A traffic registration post was at one time located here, but has since been moved further north. The junction of the two streams renders the place sacred in the eyes of Hindus, and a considerable bathing fair takes place here on the full moon of Kartik. The village at the last census contained

but 256 inhabitants, mostly Lodhs and Ahirs. The area is 415 acres, of which 317 are cultivated; the revenue demand is Rs. 479, and the proprietor is the Raja of Bansi, who also manages the ferry. A small market is held weekly in Supa Raja, which adjoins Kakrahi on the south.

KALWARI, *Pargana* NAGAR EAST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

This small town is one of those places which in former days stood on the banks of the Ghagra and has suffered from the southward retirement of that river. It gives its name to a tappa, and stands in 26° 37′ N. and 82° 40′ E., a short distance to the west of the road from Basti to Tanda in the Fyzabad district, at a distance of twelve miles from the former, and a mile south of the junction of the road with that running parallel to the Ghagra through the south of the district. Kalwari, which apparently derives its name from former Kalwar inhabitants, is still a market of some local importance, the principal exports being grain and spices, and the imports cloth, tobacco, metal vessels and cotton. The place possesses a police-station, post-office, and a lower primary school. The population numbered 3,311 in 1872, but has since declined, the total at the last census being 3,058, of whom 298 were Musalmans. The prevailing Hindu castes are Ahirs, Banias, and Gautam Rajputs; the last are the proprietors of the village, which includes an area of 1,501 acres, 1,260 being under cultivation, and is assessed at Rs. 3,122.

KHALILABAD, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The headquarters of the south-eastern tahsil are located in a large village of tappa Haveli South, lying in 26° 47′ N. and 83° 5′ E., on the metalled road from Fyzabad to Gorakhpur, at a distance of 22 miles east from Basti. Parallel to the road, on the south, runs the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, the Khalilabad station being about a mile west of the tahsil and connected with the road by a short metalled feeder. A branch road runs north from the village to Mehndawal, and has recently been metalled, while a second goes south to Dhanghata and Chhapra-ghat. The place derives its name from its founder, Qazi Khalil-ur-Rahman, who was appointed *chakladar* of Gorakhpur

about 1680. The local garrison was then maintained at Maghar, some four miles to the east, and there his tomb is to be seen. Several of his descendants still hold land in the neighbourhood, and Khalilabad is owned at present by Muhammad Jalil. The population, which in 1872 numbered 1,943 souls, had risen at the last census to 2,728, of whom 942 were Muhammadans. There is a small bazar here with shops on either side of the metalled road extending for about a quarter of a mile, and a fair amount of business is done at the markets which are held twice a week. The tahsil stands to the south of the Gorakhpur road, and is an imposing structure erected on the site of an old Musalman building; it dates from after the mutiny, when the place was sacked by the rebels. The other public institutions comprise a police-station, a post-office, a registration office, a cattle-pound, and an upper primary school, which is shortly to be raised to the middle standard. In addition to the main bazar in the centre of the village, and known as Ragarganj, there is a second to the east in which markets are held on Saturdays. To the west of the Mehndawal road is a large military encamping-ground.

KHALILABAD *Tahsil.*

This is the south-eastern subdivision of the district, being bounded on the east by Gorakhpur, and on the north by Bansi, on the west by the Basti tahsil, and on the south by the Ghagra, which separates it from the Fyzabad district. It is composed of the two parganas of Maghar East and Mahuli East, and contains 39 tappas and 1,567 villages. The total area, which varies from time to time by reason of the action of the Ghagra, Kuwana and Rapti rivers, amounted in 1905 to 335,960 acres or 556 square miles, of which 252,420 acres were cultivated in the same year.

Separate articles will be found on the two parganas, giving a detailed account of their physical characteristics, agriculture and revenue. Topographically the tahsil may be divided roughly into two tracts: the first comprising the *kachhar* or low land lying along the Rapti in the north-east and along the Ghagra in the south; and secondly, the *uparhar* or uplands, which include the rest of the subdivision. The Rapti *kachhar* is of no great

extent, and is capable of producing maize, *arhar*, and other *kharif* crops; but that of the Ghagra embraces all the country between that river and the Kuwana, a tract in which floods cause serious damage, so that in many villages the autumn crops can only be grown in exceptionally dry years. On the other hand, the soil is of a very fertile description, and owing to the proximity of water to the surface there is little need for irrigation. In the uplands the country is undulating, and the soil varies from sand in the higher ground to a heavy clay in the depressions. The most important natural feature is the raised belt of land which follows the course of the Ami through pargana Maghar East. In addition to the rivers already mentioned, there is the Katnehia, which for a considerable distance forms the boundary of Maghar East and then passes into Mahuli East to join the Kuwana near Mukhlispur. The surface of the country is further broken by a network of tributary streams, and also by numerous depressions, the most important of which is the Bakhira Tal, well known as the largest expanse of water in the provinces. Almost every part of the tahsil is amply supplied with natural sources of irrigation, but the number of wells is deficient in the Maghar pargana; and this fact, combined with the liability of pargana Mahuli East to flooding renders a number of villages more or less precarious.

The tahsil is administered as a subdivision in the charge of a full-powered magistrate on the district staff. There is a tahsildar with headquarters at Khalilabad, who exercises revenue and magisterial powers of the second and third classes respectively, and at the present time Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur is an honorary magistrate for the Mahuli and Barakoni police stations. The civil jurisdiction of the tahsil is entrusted to the munsif of Basti, with the exception of the six south-eastern tappas of Mahuli East, which for the purposes of administrative convenience are included in the circle of the munsif of Bansgaon in the Gorakhpur district. For the purposes of police administration there are stations at Khalilabad, Mehndawal, Mahuli, Dhanghata, Dudhara, Bankata and Budhabandh. The greater part of the Bankata circle, however, lies in the Bansi tahsil, while a portion of pargana Mahuli East is included in that of Barakoni. Under the new scheme Barakoni and Budhabandh

will be amalgamated into a single circle, with headquarters probably at Bardand in Mahuli West.

The tahsil first attained its present shape on the formation of the Basti district in 1865. At the subsequent census of 1872 it contained 307,717 inhabitants, and since that time the population has very rapidly increased. The total rose to 341,590 in 1881, and ten years later to 380,486. At the last enumeration of 1901 it numbered 394,675 souls,, of whom 195,358 were females. Classified according to religions, there were 323,766 Hindus, 70,875 Musalmans, 14 Aryas, six Christians and four Sikhs. The principal Hindu castes occupy much the same relation to one another as in other parts of the district. First come Chamars, numbering 57,506; they are followed by Ahirs, 45,732; Brahmans, 35,916; Kurmis, 22,309; Kewats, 14,216; and Banias, 11,546. Other castes with over five thousand members apiece are Kahars, Mallahs, Dhobis, Kumhars, Koeris, Telis, Bhuinhars, Rajputs, Barais, Bhars, and Lohars. The Rajputs belong to several different clans, but none, except perhaps the Surajbansis, occupy a very prominent position. Among the Musalmans, Julahas take the lead with 15,047 representatives; followed by Sheikhs, 14,586, and Rajputs, 11,271, the Muhammadan members of this caste outnumbering their Hindu brethren, as is also the case in Haraiya. They belong mainly to the Panwar, Chauhan, and Bais clans, their conversion dating from the time when Maghar became a seat of Musalman power. Other Muhammadans who are found in considerable numbers are Behnas, Pathans, Faqirs and Hajjams.

The population is almost wholly agricultural, and according to the census returns over 80 per cent. were directly dependent on cultivation, a higher proportion than in any other tahsil. Of the other industries cotton-weaving affords employment to the greatest number of persons, and is the only manufacture of any note, except that of metal vessels at Bakhira, Mehndawal and elsewhere. The people are scattered over 1,939 inhabited sites, with an average density of 712 to the square mile. In the vast majority of cases the villages are very small. Mehndawal is the largest town, with a population of about ten thousand, and is administered under Act XX of 1856; it has a considerable

traffic in grain and other commodities, and is still to some extent a mart of exchange between the products of the plains and of the hills, though it has been affected by the construction of the railway and the competition of more favourably situated markets. The only other places of any size are Bakhira, Maghar, Hariharpur, and Khalilabad, the last having benefited by the advent of the railway and the consequent development of an export trade in grain. The tahsil is well provided with means of communication. In addition to the railway, which traverses the centre from west to east and has stations at Maghar and Khalilabad, there is the provincial road from Gorakhpur to Basti and a number of unmetalled roads. Of the latter the most important is that from Khalilabad to Mehndawal, shortly to be promoted to the first class. Other roads include those from Basti to Mehndawal and Karmaini-ghat, and from Bakhira to Bansi, Rudhauli and Gorakhpur. In the south are the roads from Khalilabad to Chhapra-ghat on the Ghagra, with a branch leading from Mukhlispur to Mahuli and Basti, and that from Amorha to Barhalganj, traversing the south of the district and running parallel to the Ghagra. There is a military encamping ground at Khalilabad and an inspection-house at Mehndawal. Lists of the schools, ferries, post-offices, markets, and fairs of the tahsil will be found in the appendix.

KOTHILA, *Pargana* BASTI EAST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

This village gives its name to a tappa in the north of the pargana and lies in 26° 59′ N. and 82° 40′ E., at a distance of 17 miles from Basti, about a mile to the west of the Domariaganj road, and not far from the junction of the latter with the branch road from Bikramjot. Adjoining Kothila on the east, and practically forming a single village with it, is Sonhan, which gives its name to a police-station standing by the side of the Basti road. There is also a post-office and a cattle-pound adjoining the *thana*, while in Kothila there is an aided school maintained by the *zamindars* and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population of Sonhan at the last census was only 125, while Kothila contained 840 inhabitants, including 26 Musalmans and a number of Brahmans.

The village lands cover 295 acres, of which about 240 are cultivated, mainly by the proprietors, are assessed at Rs. 537, and are held by a family of Pandes.

LALGANJ, *Pargana* MAHULI WEST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

A market village of tappa Bargaon Pagar, lying in 26° 39′ N. and 82° 50′ E., on the left bank of the Kuwana river, opposite its confluence with the Manwar, at a distance of 14 miles south-east from Basti. Through it runs the road from Munderwa railway station to Gaighat and Tanda, crossing the Kuwana by a ferry. The river is navigable here, and a number of country boats are used to carry down grain to the Ghagra. A fair amount of business is done in the bazar, and besides the trade in grain the place has a local reputation for the manufacture of sugar and for cotton-printing. The population at the last census numbered 1,145 souls, of whom 271 were Musalmans. The village, which is officially known as Saraighat, comprises 214 acres, of which only about 145 are cultivated; the land slopes down to the river, and the soil is poor. The revenue is Rs. 360, and the proprietor is a Surajbansi *rais*, Babu Nageswar Prasad Singh of Marwatia. In the rains Lalganj is almost inaccessible, except by boat; the school stands on high ground, which during the wet season becomes an island. A considerable bathing fair takes place at Lalganj on the full moon of Chait, the confluence being, as usual, considered a place of sanctity.

LOTAN, *Pargana* BINAYAKPUR, *Tahsil* BANSI.

Lotan, a village of tappa Netwar, stands in 27° 17′ N. and 83° 15′ E., on the west or right bank of the Ghunghi and close to the Gorakhpur border. It is connected by a good unmetalled road with Bansi and so with the district headquarters, the distance from the latter being 57 miles. Other roads lead from Lotan to Rigauli and Gorakhpur, while a cart-track runs northwards to Butwal in Nepal. The village is of small size, and at the last census contained 664 inhabitants, including 58 Musalmans, and considerable communities of Banias and Ahirs. In Buchanan's day the place possessed but 70 poor huts and stood in a dismal and ill-cultivated tract of forest and tall grass. The latter has

now given place to rice-fields and groves of mango trees which surround the village. It was at Lotan that the British force was entrenched during the early phases of the Nepalese war, and afterwards the locality became one of the chief entrepôts of the trade with the hills. The popularity of the route has declined since the construction of the metalled road from Uska to Birdpur, while the railway has further served to divert the traffic, and grain is no longer stored here in large quantities as was the case in days gone by. A registration post is still maintained here, owing to its proximity to Butwal. The chief imports are unhusked rice, wheat, *ghi*, drugs and spices, fibres, iron, copper, oilseeds, hides and horns; while the principal exports to Nepal are cotton stuffs, cocoanuts, hardware, salt, sugar and tobacco. Lotan also contains a police-station, a post-office, and a cattle-pound; markets are held here weekly, but they are only of local importance.

MAGHAR, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The capital of the pargana is a small town of considerable antiquity, but of little present importance, save perhaps as a place of pilgrimage. It lies in the tappa of the same name, sometimes also called Qasba, in 26° 45′ N. and 83° 8′ E., by the side of the provincial main road from Gorakhpur to Fyzabad, at a distance of 27 miles east from Basti and four miles from the tahsil headquarters. To the south of the road runs the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, both crossing the Ami by bridges about half a mile to the east of the main site. Maghar at the last census contained 2,636 inhabitants, of whom as many as 1,411 were Musalmans. There is a small bazar, in which markets are held weekly; as well as a post-office, a large upper primary school, and an aided school for girls. In the town are several old but solid masonry houses, belonging to Kayasths and Banias.

A small fair is held in Maghar during the month of Kartik, and goes by the name of Bhimlapati. But the place has religious associations of far greater importance, as it contains the cenotaph shrine of the prophet, Kabir Shah. This is still an object of pilgrimage for both Hindus and Musalmans, and it is difficult to say whether the saint favoured one faith more than the other. He undoubtedly attacked both creeds unsparingly, yet both

agree that he was a holy man in whose teaching there was something akin to their own faith, and that he was worthy of worship. Both flock with equal devotion to his shrine, regarding which many local legends are current. One story relates that in the course of his wanderings he came to Maghar, and there he apparently died. His disciples disputed over the body, the different parties desiring to perform the last rites as directed by the precepts of their opposing creeds. The quarrel was fruitless, for though the Musalmans prevailed and buried the corpse, Kabir was still in the flesh at Brindaban near Muttra. Thence he sent word bidding them open the grave and thus prove that there was no cause for dispute. They did so, and found nought but a delectable fragrance. The traditional date for this event is 1274, and though Kabir did not really die till 1450 or thereabouts, his shrine was erected forthwith. Whatever be the true date of this original building matters little; for it was replaced or restored by Nawab Fidai Khan, who garrisoned Maghar with an imperial force about 1567, though another account makes Bijli Khan, the adopted son of Pahar Khan of Ghazipur and Patna, the rebuilder of the edifice. The custody of the shrine, however, has remained from the first with a Julaha family, and its maintenance is provided for by the revenue-free grant of a village in this pargana, and a daily allowance of four annas paid from the Gorakhpur treasury. The grant dates apparently from the days of Safdar Jang, who visited the spot and made provision for the proper upkeep of the shrine. There is also a Hindu *mahant*, whose earliest predecessor came about 1764 and was buried in a second shrine, standing near that of Kabir in a picturesque situation on the banks of the Ami; neither is of any great size or architectural merit. Not far distant is a mosque with a flight of steps leading down to the river, built a few years ago by a wealthy resident of Gorakhpur; and in the same locality is a Hindu temple. There is no regular fair in honour of Kabir, but pilgrims come mostly in December and January to make their humble offerings at his shrine.

Local tradition states that Maghar was in early days a stronghold of the Tharus, whose fortress stood in the neighbouring village of Ghanshampur; but their existence is probably mythical,

and the first inhabitants were perhaps Domkatars or other Hindus. About 1300 the Sarnets arrived, and made the place the capital of their principality. The remains of the old fort of the Rajas may still be traced to the west of the town ; it covered some 16 acres and contained several brick buildings, being defended by a ditch, a rampart, and the inevitable bamboo hedge. The arrival of the Musalman forces in 1570 or thereabouts drove them to Bansi, and Maghar was held by Fidai Khan. The Sarnets returned in 1610, expelled the garrison, and resumed possession of his fortress; but some seventy years later Qazi Khalil-ur-Rahman once again restored the imperial authority, and from that time till the cession in 1801 the Musalmans never relinquished their hold on the place. Maghar became a post of considerable importance, and was combined with Muazzamabad or Gorakhpur as the administrative headquarters of the division. Khalil-ur-Rahman died here, and and his tomb stands in the centre of the town. After the introduction of British rule Maghar was restored to the Raja of Bansi and is still held by his descendant.

MAGHAR EAST *Pargana*, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

This pargana comprises the northern and larger portion of the Khalilabad tahsil, and is a very considerable tract of country, in many parts of great natural fertility and highly developed, with a total area of 221,509 acres or 346 square miles. It is bounded on the east by the Gorakhpur district, the dividing line being in places formed by the Rapti and Ami rivers ; on the north by pargana Bansi East; on the west by Maghar West and Basti East; and on the south by the two Mahulis. The north-western boundary is defined by the Ami and its affluent the Barar, which unite near Belhar Kalan, the combined stream thence flowing in a south-easterly direction across the centre of the tract to the Gorakhpur border, where it then takes a southerly course. At its point of exit from the district the Ami is fed by the Khudwa, which rises near Mirganj and flows through tappa Haveli South till it reaches the district boundary, there bending north-east to join the main stream. Separating the pargana from Basti East and Mahuli West is the Katnehia, which here flows in a well-defined bed and forms a prominent natural feature. It is fed in

its upper reaches by the Garehia, but has no other tributaries except an irregular and shallow watercourse of the same name flowing through tappa Ujiar and resembling rather a succession of *jhils* than a river. Mention may also be made of the Sakaria and Makaria, two small streams which unite on the eastern borders of Ujiar and flow due east to join the Ami near Bakuchi; and of the old channel of the Rapti, which for several miles forms the northern boundary before uniting with the river in its present bed. There are numerous other drainage lines of minor importance, and a large number of lakes and *jhils*, by far the greatest and most important being the famous Bakhira Tal. Compared with this, the others are quite insignificant, though the Bandwal and Khakra lakes near the Rapti, the Nanwa Tal and several similar pieces of water in Ujiar are of considerable extent. There is no forest in the pargana, but at the beginning of the last century the tract was but scantily cultivated and covered in great measure by trees.

The pargana formerly included Maghar West, but the three north-western tappas were detached and given to the Basti tahsil on the formation of the district in 1865, leaving seventeen tappas in tahsil Khalilabad. Between the Ami and the Rapti are Gopalpur, Sakra, and Majaura, each of small size, and the three large tappas of Mehndawal, Bakhira and Belhar, the last extending beyond the former river. West and south of the Ami are Ujiar, Bakuchi, Phulethu, Dewapar, Atrawal, Un, Amanabad, Churaib, Maghar, Haveli South and Rampur Paili. The whole tract lies in the *uparhar* or upland plain with the exception of the north-east portion, comprising part of Mehndawal and a few villages of Bakhira. This belongs to the Rapti *kachhar*, and is a low-lying country subject to inundation. Along the bank of the old and present Rapti is a strip of excellent *bhat* soil, producing the finest *rabi* crops and growing maize and *arhar* when beyond the reach of the annual floods. In the lower portions the floods are very deep, and all that is produced is a backward *rabi*, a little *boro* or summer rice, and thatching-grass. The limit between the *kachhar* and the uplands is clearly defined by the high bank or *danr*, which runs along the southern and western edges of the Bakhira lake and then strikes off to the north and north-west

through tappa Mehndawal. The soil is very light, but not unfrequently fertile and resembling *bhat*, and the tract is divided into a number of small villages, usually held by Brahman *zamindars*. On the south the bank continues almost to the Ami, and beyond it, in the interior of the pargana, lies the *uparhar* or uplands. In the north this consists of a level plain of stiff loam or clay, but towards the Ami and its tributary, the Barar, the land rises and becomes undulating. There is thus a belt of high land crossing the pargana obliquely and following the course of this river; it has a light soil, not always unfertile, but cut up by numerous *nalas* leading down to the Barar and Ami. South of the latter the ground gradually falls to the south-west, the slope being almost imperceptible, save that the soil becomes more and more stiff till at last the lowest level is reached in Ujiar. The main portion of this tappa is an even flat of rich loam of a strong consistency interrupted only by the strip of light land along the southern Garehia; and this tract continues into the south-west of Belhar, all Amanabad, the west of Phulethu and the northern corner of Churaib. The rest of the pargana, in the south and south-east, is an intermediate zone of light but good loam, drained by the Khudwa and extending into the Mahuli pargana, where it meets the sandy *bhur* of the *uparhar* edge. Altogether, 75 per cent. of the soil is loam, 12 per cent. clay, and the rest sand or else *kachhar*. On the conventional classification, 16 per cent. is *goind*, 38 per cent. *miyana*, and 34 per cent. *palo*, the remainder being *bhur* and *kachhar*, which at the settlement were treated apart.

At the time of the settlement 146,676 acres were under the plough, and by 1905 the total had risen to 156,234 acres or 70·5 per cent. of the entire area. In addition to this, 57,212 acres were cropped twice in the year, representing a further substantial increase. The barren area now stands at 24,089 acres, of which only 866 acres are actually unfit for cultivation, the rest being either under water or permanently occupied by roads and buildings. The land returned as culturable is 41,186 acres, including 6,683 acres of groves; but much of this is of a poor or precarious description and would not repay tillage. About 55 per cent. of the cultivation is irrigated, mainly from tanks and the small streams.

Wells are not very numerous, though they can be constructed without difficulty when required, except in the higher and sandy tracts. The *rabi* is the more important harvest, in that it covers a larger area than the *kharif;* the principal crop is wheat, followed by peas, these together accounting for half the land sown, while poppy is a valuable asset. In the *kharif* rice is the one great staple, and takes up 75 per cent. of the cultivation, the *jarhan* variety predominating; *arhar* is grown extensively, and sugarcane is found in some abundance. Large quantities of *boro* or summer rice is produced round the Bakhira Tal and in the marshes of Mehndawal.

Among cultivators Musalmans take the foremost place in this pargana, and next come Brahmans, Kurmis, Ahirs, Rajputs, Chamars, Koeris, Kayasths, Banias and Kahars. At the settlement 15,250 acres or 28 per cent. of the holdings were tilled by the proprietors, and since that time the proportion has largely increased, the total being now 24,052 acres; this result is due to increased subdivision and greater pressure on the soil, and has been achieved at the cost of occupancy tenants. Rents ranged at the settlement from Rs. 2-2-0 per acre of inferior *palo* to Rs. 6-14-0 for the best *goind* lands; and a general rise has taken place since that date. This fact, in connection with the spread of cultivation, has rendered the incidence of the revenue demand very light. It was but Re. 1-10-4 per acre of cultivation at the time of the last revision, and although the old demand was then increased by 47 per cent., it represented only 45 per cent. of the assets. The revenue at each successive settlement is shown in the appendix.* The alluvial *mahals* along the Rapti come up for revision every five years, and this accounts for periodical fluctuations in the total sum payable to Government.

The pargana contains 968 villages, and of these as many as 712 are held in imperfect *pattidari* tenure. Nine are revenue-free, 221 are joint *zamindari,* and only 26 are owned by single proprietors. The *birt* form of under-proprietary tenure is found in 17 villages. The majority of the villages are held by Brahman and Rajput communities, though the number of Muhammadan *zamindars* is greater than in any other pargana of the district.

* Appendix, Tables IX and X.

There are no large proprietors, excepting perhaps the Agarwal Banias of Gorakhpur, who own the Barauncha Lal estate of 5,189 acres. Others who hold small estates are the Pathans of Nandaur, the Sheikhs of Qazipur, the Sikhs of Tilja, the Brahmans of Magna, and the Rajputs of Naharpur.

The population has steadily increased of late years and the last census showed a gain of 11,000 persons since 1891. The number of inhabitants was 247,891, of whom 190,471 were Hindus, 57,396 Musalmans, and 34, chiefly Aryas, of other religions. The people are mainly agricultural, and are distributed over 1,201 inhabited sites with an average density of 713 to the square mile. The manufactures of the pargana are confined to the towns, and consist in coarse cotton cloth woven chiefly at Maghar, and metal vessels produced at Mehndawal and Bakhira. These, with Khalilabad, are the chief markets, and are almost the only places of any size. Belhar Kalan has a large population, but it is made up of numerous scattered hamlets, and twelve other villages contain over a thousand inhabitants, though of these Dudhara alone deserves separate mention. Means of communication are good. The southern portion is traversed by the railway, with stations at Maghar and Khalilabad, and also by the provincial road from Gorakhpur to Fyzabad. From Khalilabad a road, recently metalled, runs north to Bakhira and Mehndawal, and another goes south to Dhanghata and Chhapra-ghat. The former joins the road from Basti to Karmaini-ghat at Mehndawal, while from Bakhira roads lead to Gorakhpur, Bansi, and Rudhauli.

The history of the pargana in early days is identical with that of the Sarnets of Bansi. The Rajas abandoned their old fortress at Maghar when that place became the seat of a Musalman garrison, and this fact has always exerted a marked influence on the surrounding country. Maghar was less subject to the local chieftains than any other part of Bansi, as is evident from the small number of *birt* grants and the large Muhammadan population. In the north indeed the Sarnets retained their supremacy, and at a comparatively late date the great estate of Bakhira was given to a member of that house; but the rebellion of the proprietor in 1857 lost him his lands and his life.

MAGHAR WEST *Pargana, Tahsil* BASTI.

This pargana occupies the north-eastern portion of the Basti tahsil, and comprises a tract of a somewhat different nature from the rest of the subdivision, being less fertile and less thickly populated than the southern parts. On its irregular northern frontier it is bounded by pargana Bansi East, the division being marked for some distance by the Budha and Barar watercourses. For a few miles on the north west it marches with Rasulpur; to the south-west the small Garehia stream separates it from Basti East; and to the south-east lies pargana Maghar East of the Khalilabad tahsil. Maghar West consists of three tappas, Rudhauli, Ghosiari, and Banskhor, and has a total area of 71,883 acres or 112 square miles.

Besides the rivers mentioned, there is the *Ami*, which meanders in a south-easterly direction through the centre in a deep and wide bed, for the greater part of its course separating the Ghosiari tappa on the east from Rudhauli on the west. It is fed by the Reruwa, a small stream which rises near Rudhauli and after flowing parallel to the Ami for some distance bends to the north-east to join that river and forms the boundary between the Rudhauli and Banskhor tappas; the Jamuwar, which rises in the Khajwa Tal in pargana Bansi East and divides Rudhauli from Ghosiari as far as its junction with the Ami; and other intermittent watercourses which serve as escapes for the surface drainage and as sources of irrigation. Lakes and *jhils* are numerous, but none are of great size, the chief being the Sargat Tal to the south of Rudhauli village and that at Kondra near the Garehia. The rivers divide the pargana into several distinct tracts, though the whole forms part of the *uparhar* or central upland plain. Along the Garehia on the western border there is a slightly raised strip of light, and sometimes rather sandy, but fertile soil, resembling the *bhat* or peculiar alluvial deposit of the Rapti. The rest of tappa Rudhauli, as far as the Jamuwar and Ami, is a hollow depression in which the soil is generally clay; there are great stretches of land producing nothing but *jarhan*, and much of the *rabi* is only a secondary crop grown after autumn rice. Towards the Ami and Jamuwar the level rises, and in the neighbourhood of the former river the ground is broken and undulating,

rising high above the channel and its tributary *nalas;* the soil is very light, but the land is often sour, and a good deal of it is infected with *reh;* but it retains traces of the fertility which characterises the Rapti *bhat,* and produces all crops without irrigation. The northern half of tappa Ghosiari is practically a continuation of the Rudhauli rice tract, but in the south and in Banskhor we find a commencement of that belt of high land which extends through the Khalilabad tahsil to the Bakhira Tal. Here the soil is an excellent loam which bears good crops at both harvests, and the clay rice lands are confined to the hollows and the *kachhar* of the Ami. The survey returns show that clay occurs in a higher proportion than in any other part of the tahsil, but even so it amounts to but 31 per cent. as compared with 68 per cent. of loam. According to the conventional classification of the settlement, 19 per cent. is *goind,* 42 per cent. *miyana,* and 39 per cent. *palo.*

In 1815 the pargana was described by Buchanan as scantily cultivated and covered in a great measure by trees; but now trees are no more common and cultivation little less extensive than in other parts of the district. At the last settlement 47,032 acres were under the plough, and in 1905 the figures had risen to 50,838 acres or 70·7 per cent. of the whole. Similarly the doubled-cropped area had risen from 14,928 to 20,268 acres. Of the remainder, 5,853 acres were classed as barren, although of this all but 571 acres were under water or occupied by village sites, roads, and the like; and 15,192 acres, including 2,015 acres under groves, were returned as culturable waste. The irrigated area is large, and even in 1905, when the general average of the district was low, it amounted to 58 per cent. of the cultivation; the natural sources of supply are ample in any ordinary year, the small streams being utilized to a greater extent than in any other part of the district, while of late the number of wells has largely increased. The principal autumn crop is early rice, followed closely by *jarhan,* and these together occupy 80 per cent. of the *kharif* harvest, the remainder being chiefly *arhar* and sugarcane. The *rabi* area is more evenly divided between wheat, peas, barley, linseed and mustard, and *gujai* or wheat mixed with barley; there is also a fair amount of poppy cultivation.

Among the cultivating classes Brahmans, as usual, predominate, though most of their cultivation is proprietary. Then come Kurmis, Chamars and Musalmans, followed by Ahirs, Rajputs, and Koeris. The holdings are very small, averaging but 1·5 acres. At the settlement about 12,500 acres were tilled by proprietors, and 34,500 acres by tenants; but since that time the former figure has increased to 18,500 acres, chiefly at the expense of occupancy tenants. Owing to the minute subdivision of the property which prevails, *zamindars* have to make the most of their lands by taking them under their own cultivation, and every possible device is resorted to for defeating occupancy rights. The rent-rates accepted by the settlement officer varied from Rs. 2-2-0 for the worst *palo* to Rs. 6-14-0 per acre of the best *goind*, and a considerable increase has taken place in subsequent years. The revenue demand at each revision will be found in the appendix.* At the last settlement an enhancement of 50 per cent. was taken, but in spite of this the incidence was but Re. 1-11-10 per acre of cultivation, and the demand was 47 per cent. of the assets, while the latter have largely increased since that time, so that the assessment never pressed heavily and soon became distinctly light.

The population of the pargana has steadily risen during the past forty years. In 1881 it numbered 58,138 persons, and ten years later 70,985. At the last enumeration of 1901 the total was 76,270, of whom 9,719 were Musalmans. The density is thus less than in the southern parganas of the tahsil, but still averages 681 to the square mile. The people are almost entirely occupied in agricultural pursuits, and are scattered over 354 inhabited sites. With the exception of Rudhauli, which will be separately described, there is not a village of any size in the pargana, and Hanumanganj alone contains over a thousand inhabitants. Means of communication are afforded by the metalled road from Basti to Bansi, which passes through Rudhauli. There it is crossed by an unmetalled road leading from Bakhira to Bhanpur in pargana Rasulpur.

The history of the pargana is practically identical with that of Maghar East. It was included in the domains of the Sarnet

* Appendix, Table IX.

Rajas, who were first established at Maghar and afterwards at Bansi. The landowners are principally Brahmans and Rajputs, and the only large proprietors are the Sarnet Babus of Rudhauli, who claim connection with the Bansi house and together own about 20,000 acres; some mention of the family has been made in Chapter III. At the present time the pargana contains 378 villages, of which one is revenue-free, 12 are held by single proprietors, 51 in joint *zamindari*, and 314 in imperfect tenure; 49 villages are in the possession of *birtia* under-proprietors.

MAHSON, *Pargana* MAHULI WEST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

A large and somewhat straggling village of tappa Kapri Mahson, lying in 26° 44′ N. and 82° 47′ E., at a distance of seven miles south-east from Basti, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road, and a mile east from the Kuwana river. The population has remained almost stationary for the last thirty years, and in 1901 numbered 3,503 souls, of whom 430 were Musalmans, the prevailing castes being Brahmans, Surajbansi Rajputs, and Kurmis. There is a well-attended upper primary school, a small aided school for girls, and a branch post-office. The market is of some local importance and bazars are held four times a week, twice in Mahson proper, and twice in Mahson Jot, an adjoining site to the east. Mahson is best known, however, as the seat of the Raja of Mahuli, whose castle is an imposing building, standing on fairly high ground and approached by a bridge leading across a tank which was constructed as a famine work in 1896. The Raja is the owner of the village, which includes an area of 550 acres, some 390 acres being cultivated, and is assessed at Rs. 1,255. The soil is a fertile loam, and the tenants are prosperous. The village is administered under the Sanitation Act, but the place cannot yet be described as a model of cleanliness.

MAHULI, *Pargana* MAHULI, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The capital of the pargana is a considerable village of tappa Bankat, lying in 26° 38′ N. and 82° 59′ E., at a distance of some 21 miles south-east from Basti and two miles west of the road from Khalilabad to Chhapra-ghat. Between the road and the

village flows the river Katnehia, which is crossed by a ferry. The population at the last census numbered 2,497 persons, of whom 604 were Musalmans; the prevailing Hindu castes being Brahmans, Banias, Rajputs and Kurmis. The place possesses a lower primary school, a cattle-pound, a post-office, and a bazar of some local importance in which markets are held twice a week. Mahuli first rose to prominence about the middle of the 16th century, when it became the stronghold of the Surajbansi Rajputs who seized the surrounding country, and it was known as the capital of a pargana in the days of Akbar. The Rajas continued to dwell here till about 1780, when a great sickness fell upon the family, supposed to proceed from the wrath of some deity, and caused their migration to Mahson. In Buchanan's time the remains of their castle were distinctly visible, standing on a mound of broken bricks, and surrounded by a rampart of the same material. The neighbourhood was then covered with forest, said to have been planted as a defence against the Musalman cavalry; but all traces of it have long disappeared. The Raja of Mahson is still the owner of the village, which has an area of 1,191 acres, 966 being cultivated, and is assessed at Rs. 1,913.

MAHULI EAST *Pargana, Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

This pargana occupies the southern portion of the tahsil and the south-east corner of the district. It is bounded on the east by Gorakhpur, the dividing line for several miles being the Kuwana river; on the south by the Ghagra, which separates it from the Fyzabad district; on the north-west by Mahuli West, and on the north by Maghar East. It had in 1905 a total area of 134,451 acres or 209 square miles, but it varies from time to time owing to the action of the Ghagra and, to a less extent, that of the Kuwana. The latter river flows through the centre of the pargana, and at Mukhlispur is joined by the Katnehia. The tract is divided into no fewer than 22 tappas, most of these being very small. In the north, beyond the Katnehia and Kuwana, are Auradand, Mandar, Tama, Chandraoti, Fidaipur, Mahabra, Satahra, Deokali, and Karsand. Between the Katnehia and Kuwana lie Muradpur, Bankat and Tariapar; while to the south of the latter river are Ajron, Naudand, Buzurgwar,

Mahthi, Kuchri, Semri, Sirsi, Baragaon, and Taraf Belghatia. The physical aspects of the pargana are somewhat diversified, the predominant feature being the Kuwana and the other rivers. This stream now runs parallel with the Ghagra, with a considerable stretch of intervening country; but about 1850 the Ghagra set northward and burst into the Kuwana, with the result that the latter is now a branch of the greater stream and the country between the two rivers has become more or less alluvial. Along the centre runs a tract of higher land, but even this is interrupted by excessive depressions through which flow several connecting channels, and here the damage caused by floods is serious, especially in the hollows and the low lands along the Kuwana, where the drainage is more gradual than along the bank of the Ghagra. In the four south-eastern tappas bordering the Gorakhpur district floods are especially prevalent, as in addition to the two rivers there is the large Mahar Tal and the extensive series of connected lakes known as the Chaparthala Tal, as well as a cross channel named the Keunia. In this lowlying tract the *kharif* is always precarious, and in many places autumn crops can only be grown in exceptionally dry years; but on the other hand the soil is as a rule fertile, being a light loam, easily worked and highly productive and requires but little irrigation. The soil is sometimes sandy along the banks of the rivers, and also in tappa Semri, where changes of channel have left a series of sandy ridges. The soil stiffens into clay in the depressions, particularly in the neighbourhood of the great Dharua *jhil* near Dhanghata.

The low alluvial tract comprises the whole or part of 18 tappas, and terminates in a belt of undulating sandy land running across the pargana north of the Kuwana. This bank is most defined in tappa Satahra, to the east of which the edge of the upland bends back to the north-west through Mahabra till it nearly meets a second bank, which commences on the border of Mandar and Chandraoti, not far from the Katnehia, and runs through Mahabra and along the boundary of Deokali to the Kuwana. This inner bank is at first a broad strip of *usar* land with only a slight slope to the south; further east the slope increases, and near the river it becomes a well-defined ridge. Between

these two banks is a narrow depression with a fertile soil, gradually merging into the *kachhar* of the Kuwana. The *bhur* tract extends throughout the pargana westwards from Chandraoti, but here is not so clearly marked or continuous, and the soil is better than in Mahuli West. Beyond it lies the *uparhar* or uplands, a level expanse of good light loam generally bearing two crops in the year, varied by occasional depressions in which *jarhan* rice is grown; but its extent in this pargana is comparatively small. Altogether about 85 per cent. of the soil is loam, the rest being clay or sand; while the conventional classification of the last settlement showed 17 per cent. *goind*, 35 per cent. *miyana*, and 39 per cent. *palo*, the remainder being *bhur* or *kachhar*.

The cultivated area has increased since the settlement by some 4,000 acres, and in 1905 amounted to 96,186 acres or 71·5 per cent. of the whole. The double-cropped area also shows a large increase, and is now 31,629 acres. Of the remainder, 22,758 acres, including 4,765 acres under groves, are returned as culturable; and 15,507 acres as barren. The latter is mainly under water or else is occupied by roads or buildings, but the actually unculturable area, 2,988 acres, is considerably larger than in any other pargana of the district. Means of irrigation are generally abundant, and about 56 per cent. of the cultivated area can obtain water when necessary. In addition to the natural sources there is a fair number of wells, and these can readily be dug when occasion demands; but as a rule the pargana suffers from too much water rather than from any deficiency. The area of the *kharif* harvest depends on the season, and it is to the *rabi* that the people look for their profits. The Mahuli wheat is famous and forms the chief staple in the spring, while next come peas and barley, the opium cultivation being of some importance. In the autumn early rice is the principal crop, and with *arhar* and sugarcane constitutes the bulk of the harvest.

The standard of cultivation would be higher but for the predominance of Brahmans and Rajputs, most of whom till their own lands. Nearly 31,000 acres are cultivated by proprietors, the increase having been very marked since the settlement, and as usual the occupancy tenants have suffered. Among the tenants proper, Ahirs are the most numerous, followed by

Kurmis, Chamars, Musalmans, Kahars, Kayasths, and Koeris. Rents are fairly low, the standard rents of the settlement ranging from Rs. 2-2-0 for the worst *palo* to Rs. 6-14-0 for the best *goind*, with a special rate of Re. 1-6-0 per acre for dry *bhur* and the precarious *kachhar*. The revenue demand is also very moderate. The results of successive assessments will be found in the appendix, and though an enhancement of 46 per cent. was taken at the last revision, the initial incidence was only Re. 1-8-9 per acre of cultivation and the *jama* was less than 46 per cent. of the accepted assets.* The liability to inundation necessitated lenient treatment, and this policy has been fully justified by the results. The demand is liable to fluctuations, as the alluvial *mahals* come up for revision of settlement every five years.

As is the case in most parganas of the district, the population shows a constant tendency to increase. At the last census the total exceeded that of 1891 by some five thousand, the number of inhabitants being 146,784, of whom 13,479 were Musalmans. The population is scattered over 738 inhabited sites with an average density of 702 to the square mile. The great majority of the villages are of small size, though 14 places contain over a thousand inhabitants, the largest being Hariharpur, Mahuli, Mukhlispur, and Hainsar. These are the chief markets, but the trade is of no great importance and is mainly confined to agricultural products; the pargana was once famed for its cattle, but has no longer much claim to distinction on this account. It possesses neither railway nor metalled road, and except in the dry weather communications are very poor. The unmetalled road which traverses the south of the district runs through Dhanghata, Hainsar and Sirsi into Gorakhpur, and at the first of these places is crossed by a similar road from Khalilabad to Chhapra on the Ghagra. A third road connects Mukhlispur and Mahuli with the district headquarters.

The Surajbansi Rajputs became masters of this part of the country about 1850, or perhaps a little earlier, and are still the chief landholders. The fort at Mahuli has long been abandoned and the Raja now resides at Mahson. He possesses about 6,500 acres in this pargana, while a considerable property is held by the

* Appendix, Tables IX and X.

Babus of Hariharpur and Jignan, who belong to the same stock. The only other *zamindars* of any importance are the Kayasth Chaudhris of Sawapar. The pargana is divided into 601 villages, and of these 331 are held in imperfect *pattidari* tenure, 63 in single, and 202 in joint *zamindari,* while five are revenue-free. Under-proprietors holding their lands in *birt,* and deriving their rights from former Rajas, are found in 104 villages. Most of them are Brahmans, who together with Rajputs own by far the largest proportion of the land.

MAHULI WEST *Pargana, Tahsil* BASTI.

This pargana occupies the south-east portion of the Basti tahsil, and comprises a considerable stretch of country extending from the Katnehia river on the north-east, which separates it from Maghar East, to the Ghagra on the south. To the west lies Nagar East, to the east Mahuli East, and to the north Basti East. The total area in 1905 was 104,335 acres or 163 square miles; but this figure is liable to change from year to year by reason of the Ghagra floods, which sometimes take away considerable tracts of land and at others makes large additions to the district. The pargana is divided into two portions by the Kuwana river, to the south of which lie the tappas of Jagannathpur, Kudraha, Charkaila, and Sheobakhri; while to the north are Kapri Mahson, Koraon, Karri, Dehi, Mahtauli, Kabra, and Bargaon Pagar.

The pargana is a well-tilled alluvial plain and the salient feature of the tract is as usual its rivers, which flow in a south-easterly course towards the Ghagra. The Kuwana at first forms the boundary between this pargana and Nagar East, and then turns south-eastwards through the centre, gradually approaching the Ghagra till it finally enters Mahuli East. Opposite Lalganj it is joined by the Manwar, and this addition has a considerable effect on the nature of the stream. Of much greater importance, however, is the relation of the Kuwana to the Ghagra. Formerly the latter flowed much further to the north, and about 1850 it actually burst into the Kuwana, which runs in a lower bed. At the present time the two rivers are about four miles apart, but there is still a small connecting channel, and in the rainy season a great volume of the Ghagra floods falls into the smaller river,

heading back its waters to such an extent that the low ground between the high bank of the Ghagra and the *uparhar* edge is completely inundated. The Kabra tappa is especially liable to damage, while Jagannathpur also suffers, though to a less extent. The floods are, however, expected every year, and allowance is made for them in the rent and revenue. No account is taken of the *kharif* harvest, and the waters subside in time for the *rabi* sowing, for which little preparation is required. Much of the alluvial land along the Ghagra is extremely fertile, and the tract benefits in dry years at the expense of the uplands. The limit between this belt and the *uparhar* is marked by an irregularly-defined high bank, which follows a line through tappa Jagannathpur along the eastern bank of the Kuwana in Bargaon Pagar to the Baherar *nala* in tappa Mahtauli. The soil of the high bank is poor and sandy, natural reservoirs of water are but few, and wells are not only difficult to construct, but are very shortlived and contain a scanty supply of water. This tract is, however, of no great extent, being merely a narrow strip. Beyond it to the north the soil becomes a rich loam suitable for every kind of crop: it increases in stiffness as the Katnehia is approached, and along that river becomes a hard clay in which *jarhan* rice is the principal product. There are numerous tanks and *jhils* dotted about the *uparhar*, but none of any size or importance. According to the survey returns, about 75 per cent. of the cultivated area possesses a loam soil, ten per cent. is clay, 9·7 per cent. *kachhar*, and the rest sandy *bhur*; while the conventional classification shows about one-fifth *goind*, one-third *miyana*, and one-third *palo*.

The cultivated area at the time of the settlement was 70,588 acres, and in 1905 it had risen to 74,813 acres or 71·7 per cent. of the whole. In addition, 28,879 acres bore a double crop, representing an increase of nearly 8,000 acres since the settlement. Of the remaining area 11,834 acres are returned as culturable, including 2,964 acres under groves; and 11,670 acres as barren, but more than half of this is under water, and the bulk of the remainder taken up by roads and buildings, only 1,322 acres being actually unculturable waste. The irrigated area is large, amounting to about 55 per cent. of the cultivation in the ordinary years.

The *kachhar* does not require irrigation, and for the rest the rivers, *jhils* and tanks supply a considerable area, though wells are very numerous and form the principal source of supply, irrigating over 18,000 acres. Early rice is by far the most important crop, and together with *jarhan* covers more than half the *kharif* area; *arhar* and sugarcane contribute about 4,000 acres apiece. The chief *rabi* staples are barley, wheat, *gujai*, and peas, while about one thousand acres are under poppy.

The largest share of the cultivation is in the hands of Brahmans, many of whom till their own lands. Next to them come Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, each taking a fairly high rank as husbandmen, and then Rajputs, Musalmans, Kahars and Koeris. The land is minutely subdivided, and the small *pattidars* make the most of their few fields by cultivating them themselves, about 30 per cent. of the area being included in proprietary holdings. The occupancy and ex-proprietary area is larger than in most parganas, amounting to some 38 per cent., but even so it has rapidly declined since the settlement, when 45 per cent. was held by these classes. The rent-rates accepted by the settlement officers varied from Rs. 2-11-0 per acre of inferior *palo* to Rs. 7 for the best *goind*, and since that time a marked increase has occurred, as in all parganas of the district. Owing to this the revenue has become very light; it was far from high at the time of settlement, for though an enhancement of no less than 54 per cent. was taken, the initial incidence was only Re. 1-10-10 per acre of cultivation and the revenue was less than 46 per cent. of the assets. The results of each successive assessment will be found in the appendix.*

The population of the pargana has steadily risen of late years. It numbered 106,167 in 1881 and 110,334 ten years later. At the last census of 1901 Mahuli West contained 118,700 persons, of whom 11,870 or exactly ten per cent. were Musalmans. The average density is 730 to the square mile, and the population is distributed over 570 villages and 597 inhabited sites. Few of these are of any size or importance. By far the largest is Mahson, and next comes Gaighat, both of which are separately described, while Budwal and Khoria are large villages. The chief markets are at Gaighat,

* Appendix, Table IX.

Lalganj, and Bardand. The trade is chiefly in agricultural products, though there is a fair traffic in cattle, and the only manufacture is that of cotton prints at Lalganj. Means of communication are fair. Through the extreme north runs the provincial road from Gorakhpur to Basti and Fyzabad, and parallel to this is the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, with a station at Munderwa near Budwal. From this an unmetalled road runs south-west to Lalganj and Gaighat, there joining a similar road which passes through the south of the district parallel to the Ghagra. The former is crossed a short distance north of Lalganj by a road leading from Basti to Mahson and Mahuli. The Kuwana as well as the Ghagra is navigable throughout the pargana, and a good deal of traffic is carried by boats.

The history of the pargana is practically identical with that of Mahuli East. Since the days of Akbar at any rate it has formed the territory of the Surajbansis of Mahuli, whose headquarters are now at Mahson. Next to the Raja himself, who owns over 16,000 acres in the pargana, the largest landholders are Rai Kanhaiya Bakhsh Pal Bahadur of Bhanpur and Lal Mangal Prasad Pal of Budwal, both representing branches of the same family, and together owning some 19,000 acres. Among the smaller proprietors Brahmans and Rajputs predominate. No less than 309 villages are held in imperfect *pattidari* tenure, and 136 in joint *zamindari*; of the rest, 61 are owned by single *zamindars*, two are perfect *pattidari*, and two are held revenue-free. In 91 villages the under-proprietary tenure known as *birt* is to be found, derived in each case from grants made by the Raja as overlord.

MEHNDAWAL, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The capital of the large tappa of Mehndawal is a considerable town lying in 26° 58′ N. and 83° 7′ E., on the unmetalled road from Basti to Karmaini-ghat on the Rapti, at a distance of 28 miles from the district headquarters and 15 miles from Khalilabad, with which it is connected by a road now in course of being metalled. A third road runs westwards to join that from Bakhira to Bansi. The population of the place was below five thousand

in 1847, but amounted to 7,273 in 1853 and 8,124 in 1872. By 1881 it had increased to 11,592, but since that time the place has declined, the total being 10,991 in 1891, and at the last census 10,143, of whom 7,874 were Hindus, 2,255 Musalmans, and 14 of other religions. The principal Hindu castes are Brahmans and Rajputs.

Lying at a distance of some five miles from the Rapti, about two from the edge of the Bakhira Tal, and even less from the low country flooded during the rains by those waters, the climate of Mehndawal is somewhat damp and malarious. The town consists mainly of mud houses, irregularly grouped about a winding road leading from the south-west to the north-east. The drainage is carried off by two natural watercourses which run southwards into the lake. The main street is joined or crossed by others, and in the centre is the *chauk*, the principal market-place, in the neighbourhood of which all the roads are lined with fair shops. To the west of the *chauk* one of the roads opens out into another bazar, occupying a considerable space flanked by excellent houses and shaded by trees, this being the centre of the cotton trade. Some of the buildings are fronted by fenced enclosures for the storage of cotton, but there are also good shops for the sale of other articles. Towards the north of the town are situated two more market-places, one dealing chiefly in Nepalese goods, and the other in tobacco. To the south of the town, in an open space traversed by the main road, stands the police-station. Mehndawal also contains a post-office, a dispensary, a middle vernacular school, an inspection bungalow and a cattle-pound. The place is essentially Hindu in character, as is evidenced by the numerous temples, the chief being that of Krishna in the south, not far from the police-station. A fair of some dimensions is held on the occasion of the Sheoratri festival in Phagun, and smaller assemblages take place at the Ramlila and Dhanusjag.

Thursday is the principal market day, and the trade of the place is still considerable, although it has been affected by the diversion of commerce to the railway at Uska to the north and at Khalilabad to the south. Some improvement may be expected when the road to the latter place is metalled throughout, and the benefit would be considerably greater if the proposed branch line

were constructed to pass through Mehndawal and Bansi to Tulsipur. The trade chiefly consists in the exchange of goods from the Nepal hills for those of the plains. Of the former the most considerable are iron, copper, unhusked rice and other grains, drugs, ginger and spices, fibre manufactures, *ghi* and dyes. The imports from Gorakhpur, Cawnpore, Allahabad and elsewhere are raw cotton, piecegoods, salt, metal vessels, sugar and hides; while tobacco is largely imported from Saran in Bengal.

Mehndawal is said to have been founded by one Damodar Singh, a Sarnet, who received a large grant of land from the Raja of Bansi. Its development appears, however, to have been due principally to the Banjaras, who made it one of their chief trading stations. During the mutiny the Rajput *zamindars* gave some trouble, and one of them, Har Gobind Singh, lost his estate in consequence. The Babus of Mehndawal still own a considerable property, amounting to 64 villages in this pargana. Mehndawal itself has an area of 471 acres, of which only about 220 acres are cultivated, the revenue being Rs. 291. The town has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since 1880. In 1906 it contained 1,939 houses, of which 701 were assessed to taxation, the average income from the house-tax for the three previous years being Rs. 1,217, which gave an incidence of Re. 1-13-3 per assessed house, and Re. 0-2-0 per head of population. The total average income for the same period was Rs. 1,492, and the expenditure Rs. 1,232. The latter was chiefly devoted to the maintenance of the local police force, Rs. 630, to conservancy, Rs. 216, and to minor improvements, Rs. 233.

NAGAR, *Pargana* NAGAR EAST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

The capital of the pargana is a village of great antiquity situated in tappa Haveli Nagar, in 26° 43′ N. and 82° 40′ E., on the west side of the road from Basti to Tanda in Fyzabad, at a distance of five miles from the district headquarters. To the west of the village stretches the large lake known as the Chando Tal, famous for its fishing and shooting. Nagar stands on a raised site, and an attempt was once made to prove that it was the birthplace of Gautama Buddha; and though this has long been discredited, the old mound still awaits exploration. From

the fourteenth century the place became the headquarters of the Gautam Rajas, the remains of whose castle are still to be seen: but in 1858 the last Raja died a rebel and his property was forfeited and given to the Raja of Bansi. Nagar possesses an upper primary school, a cattle-pound dating from 1898, and a flourishing bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population in 1872 numbered 2,054 persons, and by the last census the total had risen to 2,551, of whom 448 were Musalmans; the prevailing castes are Banias, Brahmans, and Chains.

NAGAR EAST *Pargana, Tahsil* BASTI.

This small pargana forms the south-western portion of the tahsil. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the Kuwana and its affluent the Rawai, on the east by pargana Mahuli West, on the west by Nagar West, and on the south by the Ghagra, which separates it from the Fyzabad district. Like Nagar West, the pargana is divided into two halves by the Manwar, which flows through the centre. To the south of this stream are the two tappas of Kalwari and Kanela, and to the north are the tappas of Haveli Nagar, Pilai, Pipra, Kurha, and Dobakhra. The total area of the pargana in 1905 was 61,445 acres or 96 square miles; but this is liable to vary from time to time by reason of the action of the Ghagra in tappa Kalwari.

In addition to the rivers already mentioned, there is the Machhoi, which falls into the great lake known as the Chando Tal from pargana Nagar West, and the Gauria, by means of which the surplus waters of the lake find their way into the Manwar. There are many other sheets of water in the pargana, the largest being the Som Tal on the eastern borders of tappa Kanela. In its general configuration the pargana resembles Nagar West, being a comparatively level plain with a gentle slope towards the south-east. Along the Ghagra there is a low-lying belt of alluvial land, bounded by an irregularly-defined high bank which follows a line drawn eastwards from the north of the Chando Tal. This tract is generally of a good description, though as a whole the pargana is inferior to its neighbours. The soil is a greyish loam, consisting of clay mixed with river sand, and though the proportion of the latter is sometimes high the land is seldom

unproductive; it is easily worked and suitable for every kind of crop, while facilities for irrigation are abundant. Along the high bank, however, which forms the edge of the upland, the soil is sandy and poor, the crops being generally of an inferior description. This strip of undulating land is more extensive in Nagar East than elsewhere, occupying the greater portion of the northern tappas; but its poverty is only comparative, and in most places the sand closely resembles a light loam. According to the survey returns over 80 per cent. of the total area consists of loam, while the remainder is clay and sand in about equal proportions. By the conventional classification of the settlement 15 per cent. was returned as *goind*, 45 per cent. as *miyana*, and 40 per cent. as *palo*, the proportion of *goind* being unusually small. In the Pipra and Kurha tappas there is a still large area of jungle, which the worthlessness of the soil has hitherto saved from clearance, and there are whole villages in which the *mahua* trees supply almost the sole produce. The best portions of the upland are to be found in Kurha and Dobakhra, the centre of each tappa being occupied by a fertile hollow with a good consistent soil.

At the time of the last settlement the cultivated area was 41,950 acres, while 11,984 acres bore a double crop. In 1905 the former area had increased to 41,689 acres or 67·8 per cent. of the whole, and the *dofasli* area had risen to 14,980 acres. It should be noted that the southern portion is in every year liable to floods, so that the *kharif* harvest is constantly precarious; but the waters subside in time for the *rabi* sowings, for which little preparation is required owing to the nature of the soil. Of the remaining area 12,243 acres are returned as culturable waste, including 2,738 acres under groves; and 7,513 acres as barren, though of this more than half is under water, and the bulk of the remainder is occupied by sites and roads, the actually unculturable area being only 945 acres. At the time of the survey 55·5 per cent. of the cultivation was irrigated, but the amount varies with the nature of the season. Wells are the chief source of supply, though the natural reservoirs are employed to a considerable extent and some use is made of the small streams. In the low lands water is everywhere near the surface, and no difficulty is experienced in the construction of wells and tanks; but

in the sandy tract to the north wells are few and the land is less secure against prolonged delay in the advent of the monsoon or an early cessation of the rains. Unprotected wells can hardly be made in this part of the pargana, and in no case last long, while the supply of water is generally scanty. The principal crop is early rice, followed by *arhar* and barley. Maize is cultivated in the alluvial lands along the Ghagra, and other important staples are wheat, peas, and *gujai*, or wheat mixed with barley, while sugarcane and opium are fairly well represented.

Among the cultivating castes Brahmans largely preponderate, and after them come Rajputs, Ahirs, Kurmis, and Chamars. The Kurmis and Ahirs are husbandmen of a high order, but are not so skilled as the Koeris, who have, however, only a small number of holdings. As is the case throughout the south of the district, the area in the possession of each cultivator is very small, averaging only 1·25 acres; this, too, includes the proprietary holdings, which are very numerous and are sometimes large, being frequently extended at the expense of the occupancy tenants. The rents are much the same as in pargana Basti East, but are exceptionally low in the alluvial lands of tappa Kalwari. The revenue demand at successive settlements will be found in the appendix.* At the last settlement a large enhancement was taken, but the revenue was less than 45 per cent. of the assets, and gave an average incidence of Re. 1-13-5 per acre of cultivation. There are 11 alluvial *mahals* along the Ghagra subject to a quinquennial revision of settlement.

At the present time the pargana contains 322 villages, and of these 78 are held by single proprietors, 53 are joint *zamindari*, two are perfect, and 187 imperfect *pattidari*, while the remaining two are *bhaiyachara*. Ten villages are in the possession of *birtia* under-proprietors. Till the mutiny almost the whole pargana was owned by the Gautam Rajputs, headed by the Raja of Nagar, and this clan had remained in undisturbed possession since the 14th century. The estate of the Nagar Raja was confiscated for his rebellion and bestowed on the Raja of Bansi, who holds about 11,000 acres. Twelve villages formerly belonging to the Pipra Gautams were given to Mr. Cooke of

* Appendix, Tables IX and X.

Basti, comprising nearly 7,000 acres; but apart from these the Gautams still hold much of the land, especially in Pipra, Kalwari, Dobakhra, and Kanela, holding over 10,000 acres, and paying a revenue of Rs. 11,600. The most prominent member of the clan is Babu Ram Bakhsh Singh of Pipra.

The population of Nagar East at the last census numbered 65,507, of whom 45,102 were Hindus, 20,400 Musalmans, and five of other religions. The total was slightly less than that of 1891, when it amounted to 66,563, but the density averages 753 to the square mile, and is quite as much as the soil can bear. There are no fewer than 480 inhabited sites, but none are of any size. Kalwari indeed is a very large village, and so is Nagar itself, but in each instance the place consists of a collection of scattered hamlets; besides these, Pipra and Bahadurpur alone contain over a thousand inhabitants. Markets are held at these places and a few others: the trade is chiefly in grain, but there is some commerce in cloth, spices, tobacco, cotton, copper and brass utensils. The only manufactures are cotton-weaving and cotton-printing at Bahadurpur; the printers also prepare chintz and gilt cloths, which are sold not only in this district, but also in Nepal. Means of communication are fair. Through the extreme north passes the provincial road from Basti to Fyzabad, and from thence a branch runs south through Nagar and Kalwari to the Tanda ferry over the Ghagra. It is crossed at Kalwari by the unmetalled road running throughout the south of the district parallel to the Ghagra.

NAGAR WEST *Pargana, Tahsil* HARAIYA.

This pargana occupies the south-eastern portion of the tahsil, extending from Basti West on the north to the river Ghagra on the south. To the west lies pargana Amorha, and to the east pargana Nagar East and the Basti tahsil. The tract is of no great size, and in 1905 had an area of 72,326 acres or 113 square miles. This figure is liable to variation from time to time owing to the action of the Ghagra, and has increased by a thousand acres since the survey.

Like Amorha, the pargana falls into three natural divisions. In the south are the tappas Uji and Manwarpara lying in the

alluvial belt along the Ghagra, in which the soil is a light and fertile loam with abundant facilities for irrigation, water being near the surface and wells easy to construct. The northern half comprises the three tappas of Nawai, Khuriar, and Ganeshpur. Through the first of these, forming the high bank of the Manwar, runs a strip of poor and sandy soil, in which means of irrigation are deficient, as wells are very difficult to construct and last but a short time. The northern portion belongs to the central plain and has a good loam soil of a consistent character. Besides the Manwar, the rivers of the pargana include the Machhoi, which rises in the east of Amorha and passes through Nawai and Khuriar to fall into the Chando Tal in pargana Nagar East; the Rawai, which for some distance forms the northern boundary and then cuts through Ganeshpur to join the Kuwana; and the Majhora, another affluent of the Kuwana, which for a few miles skirts the northern border. The surface is further broken by several lakes and *jhils* of which the largest is the Madni Tal in tappa Khuriar. According to the survey figures 82 per cent. of the soil consists of loam, eight per cent. of clay, and the remainder of sandy *bhur*; while the conventional classification of the settlement gave 20 per cent. *goind*, 44 per cent. *miyana*, 28 per cent. *palo* and eight per cent. dry *bhur*, which was made into a separate circle.

The cultivated area at the time of the settlement was 49,353 acres, and has since increased. In 1905 there was, it is true, a slight decline, the total being 4,875 acres or 67·4 per cent. of the whole, but the reduction was temporary and due to floods in the lowlands near the Ghagra. Of the remaining area 15,786 acres, including 2,209 acres under groves, were classed as culturable; and 7,788 acres as barren, though of this only 2,164 are properly unculturable, the rest being either under water or occupied by buildings, roads, and the like. The pargana as a whole is admirably supplied with means of irrigation, and over 60 per cent. of the cultivated area can be watered when required. Wells form the chief source of supply, but the *jhils* and tanks are of considerable value, and a small amount of land is watered from the streams. The area tilled in the *kharif* is about the same as that reserved for the *rabi* harvest, but the proportion of good crops is

lower than in other parts of the tahsil. Early rice is the chief *kharif* staple, and with *jarhan* occupies one-third of the area sown. Wheat is the principal *rabi* crop, but is not grown so extensively as in Amorha. Peas occupy an almost equal area, and then come barley and poppy, the latter being especially valuable. Sugarcane is grown along the Ghagra without irrigation, but is liable to be spoilt by floods during the rains; and of the remaining crops mention need only be made of *arhar*, which is cultivated to an unusual extent. The land bearing a double crop amounted to 19,445 acres in 1905, and has largely increased since the settlement.

At the census of 1891 the population numbered 77,246, but at the last enumeration the total had decreased to 74,238, of whom 68,303 were Hindus and 5,935 Musalmans, the latter being comparatively scarce. The people are almost entirely agricultural, and less than five thousand persons are engaged in other pursuits. There are 461 inhabited sites, and the average density is 657 to the square mile. The only place of any size in the pargana is Ganeshpur, which has been separately described; four other villages have populations exceeding one thousand, the chief being Uji and Ojhaganj, but neither possesses any importance.

The revenue demand at successive settlements will be found in the appendix.* At the last assessment an enhancement of 35 per cent. was taken, but even so the revenue was light, as it represented little more than 41 per cent. of the assets, and gave an incidence of Rs. 1-12-0 per acre of cultivation. The rent rates accepted at the settlement varied from Rs. 2-2-0 for the worst *palo* to Rs. 7-2-0 for the best *goind;* while a special rate of Rs. 1-7-0 was allowed for the small area of dry *bhur*. The revenue is liable to fluctuation, owing to the presence of 20 alluvial *mahals* along the Ghagra, which come up for revision every five years. The chief reason for the exceptionally low proportion of the assets taken is that 26 villages, mostly in tappa Ganeshpur, are permanently settled and are held on a small quit-rent by a Musalman family still known as the Pindaris, to whom reference has been made in the article on Ganeshpur and in Chapter III.

* Appendix, Table IX.

Next to them the largest proprietor is the Raja of Bansi, whose predecessor was rewarded with the confiscated estate of the Gautam Raja of Nagar. He holds 12,110 acres, and apart from these there are few properties of any size. The chief belong to the Ojha Brahmans of Rajauli and the Gautams of Uji; but in most cases the proprietors are members of coparcenary bodies of Rajputs or Brahmans owning a few villages and living by their farming rather than by their rents. At the present time, out of a total of 350 villages, 72 are held by single proprietors, 57 in joint *zamindari*, four in perfect, and 217 in imperfect, *pattidari* tenure. The under-proprietary right known as *birt* occurs in 36 villages.

Brahmans also head the list of cultivators, though a good deal of their cultivation is proprietary; and the same remark applies to the Rajputs, who are third on the list. The chief castes among the tenants proper are Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, Koeris, and Kahars. At the settlement 11,266 acres were cultivated by the owners, and 37,865 acres by tenants, but since then the occupancy area has decreased by more than three thousand acres, resulting in a proportionate increase of *khudkasht*; a similar phenomenon having been observed in Amorha and indeed in every part of the district.

Means of communication are on the whole good. Through the north of the tract passes the provincial highway from Gorakhpur to Basti and Fyzabad, and at Captainganj, the old headquarters of the tahsil, it is crossed by an unmetalled road leading from Tinich station on the railway to join a similar road, which passes through the south of the pargana parallel to the Ghagra, near Dubaulia in Amorha. There is also some traffic on the Ghagra and Kuwana rivers, while even the Manwar is navigable during the rains. The trade of the pargana is practically confined to grain, and there are no manufactures of any note; markets are held in several villages, though that at Ganeshpur alone possesses any importance.

The pargaña has no history of its own, at any rate apart from Nagar East. It formed part of the Gautam principality, which continued till the mutiny, when the rebellion of the Raja lost him his title and estates. The division of the old pargana

into two portions dates only from the formation of the present district.

NARKATHA, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

Narkatha is practically a suburb of Bansi, but stands on the north or opposite bank of the Rapti, in 27° 11′ N. and 82° 56′ E., and is included in tappa Chaur. It forms by itself a township of considerable size, the population, which in 1872 numbered 3,808 souls, having risen by the last census to 4,964, of whom 1,452 were Musalmans. Access to Narkatha is obtained by means of a ferry from Bansi, while the roads from Biskohar, Chilia and Uska here converge. The village, which covers 1,564 acres and is a valuable property with an annual rental of Rs. 3,441, forms part of the revenue-free *nankar* of the Bansi estate. The Raja has his residence here, the transfer from Bansi having taken place about 1760, when the old castle at Bansi was deserted on account, it is said, of the malevolent ghost of a Brahman. The new house consisted at first of a mud-built quadrangle with two-storeyed towers of the same material at the corners. Subsequently brick was substituted for mud, and a second storey has been added. The big quadrangle contains a fine display of elephants, horses, wild animals and birds. Markets are held weekly in Narkatha, the bazar being known as Lalganj.

NAUGARH, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

An important market which has been developed by the European proprietors of the Birdpur estate in the north of the Bansi tahsil. The bazar belongs to tappa Ghaus and lies on the bank of the Jamuwar, in 27° 17′ N. and 83° 6′ E., and is traversed by the metalled road from Uska to Birdpur. Close by is a station on the new line from Uska to Tulsipur, the construction of which has greatly benefited the place. It is now a much frequented entrepôt for the Nepal trade, most of which favours this route and is here registered; the traffic is mainly in rice and other grains. The fine bridge which formerly carried the road over the river was unfortunately washed away in the heavy floods of 1903, which also burst the embankment on the west of the bazar and did much damage. The bazar has been restored, and is now

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as flourishing as ever, but the bridge has not yet been rebuilt. Naugarh possesses a large upper primary school, and a combined post and telegraph office. The market lies in Birdpur Grant XIV, which at the last census contained 2,933 inhabitants, including 1,102 Musalmans and a large number of Kurmis; the area is 2,117 acres, and the soil is well suited for the cultivation of *jarhan* rice, while the crops are protected by the excellent system of canals developed by the estate.

PAIKAULIA, *Pargana* BASTI WEST, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

A village of tappa Ratanpur, lying in 26° 52′ N. and 82° 32′ E., on the unmetalled road leading from Bikramjot to Kothila, at a distance of six miles north from Haraiya and some 14 miles north-west from the district headquarters. Paikaulia lies on the south side of the road, and the village lands extend to the right bank of the Rawai, while on the south they are bounded by a depression known as the Kasonjha Tal. The Rawai is a small stream, but is liable to swell suddenly during the rains, rendering the cultivation in its neighbourhood somewhat precarious; the more so, as the land along its banks is affected by *reh*. Only 259 acres are cultivated out of a total area of 742 acres; the proprietors, a coparcenary body of Surajbansi Rajputs, keep most of the land in their own hands. The population at the last census numbered 622 souls, including 45 Musalmans. The village only deserves mention as containing a police-station, a branch post-office, and a cattle-pound. There is no trade or market, although in 1813 Buchanan described Paikaulia as the only place in the pargana besides Basti that could be called a town. Near the village, about two miles to the north, is the Bhuila Tal, on the banks of which is a series of Buddhist ruins, for some time supposed to mark the site of the ancient Kapilavastu.

PARASRAMPUR, *Pargana* AMORHA, *Tahsil* HARAIYA.

A small village of tappa Bangaon, lying in 26° 54′ N. and 82° 21′ E., at a distance of nine miles from Amorha and 32 miles west from the district headquarters. It lies off the road in an agricultural tract, and is only noticeable as being the headquarters of a police circle which extends to the Gonda

border. Besides the *thana*, the place contains a post-office, a cattle-pound established in 1891, and a lower primary school. The population at the last census numbered 463 persons, including 43 Musalmans and a large number of Kurmis. The village has an area of 335 acres, of which about 260 are cultivated, and is assessed at Rs. 504, the proprietors being a body of Surajbansi Rajputs.

RASULPUR, *Pargana* RASULPUR, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

The place which gives its name to the pargana is a small village lying in 27° 11′ N. and 82° 42′ E., on the right or south bank of the Rapti, at a distance of four miles east from Domariaganj. The place is of no importance, having at the last census a population of 471 persons, of whom 326 were Musalmans. It belongs to the tappa of Halaur, and, as its name implies, is of Musalman origin; but nothing is known of the date of its foundation or of its early history. The pargana was known as Rasulpur before the days of Akbar, and the old Kalhans principality bore the same name. The village was presumably the seat of the Kalhans Rajas till their expulsion by Raja Ram Singh of Bansi, and has since dropped into insignificance. A small market is held here weekly on Mondays.

RASULPUR *Pargana*, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

This pargana forms the southern and larger portion of the tahsil, being bounded on the north by Bansi West, from which it is separated by the Parasi and Akrari rivers, on the east by Bansi East, on the south by Maghar West, Basti East, and for a short distance by Basti West; while to the west lies the Gonda district, the boundary being formed partly by the Rapti and its tributary the Suwawan, and partly by the Kuwana. The pargana has a total area of 211,884 acres or 332 square miles. It is subdivided into eight tappas. North of the Rapti lie Awainia and Karhi, and to the south of that river are Sehari, Bhanpur, Halaur, Sagara, Chhapia and Adampur.

The Rapti is the principal river of the tract. First touching the district near Singarjot, it thence flows southwards with a very tortuous course as far as its junction with the Suwawan

near Bitharia; from that point it turns east and generally maintains that direction through the pargana till its entry into Bansi East. The country to the north is drained by the Parasi, Akrari, and a few subordinate streams, such as the Sohirwa in tappa Karhi. The land south of the Rapti lies almost wholly beyond its influence, owing to the presence of a high bank. The drainage is effected by the Kuwana and its affluents, of which the chief are the Rihawar and Bhitri; the Garehia, which rises in tappa Sagara and is here an ill-defined and sluggish stream; and the Ami, which rises near Halaur, and after flowing through Sagara separates this pargana from Bansi East for a few miles, before passing into Maghar West. Besides the rivers, there is a great number of lakes and *jhils,* many of considerable size. North of the Rapti, in tappa Awainia, are the large Leond, Inawar, and Asarhi Tals, as well as the Phalphali, the Keonhua, and the many *naukhans* along the Rapti; and in Karhi the chief is that of Pempur, in which the Akrari takes its rise. South of the river, the largest is the Pathra Tal, lying partly in this pargana and partly in Bansi East, while several others of less importance are to be found in different parts. Thus in Sagara there are the considerable Jukhaila and Pipargaddi *jhils;* in Chhapia those of Piprahia and Banaudhia; and in Bhanpur the chief are the Ataria and Narharia Tals, and a *jhil* at Puraina near Bhanpur itself. The pargana is well wooded, but can boast no nearer approach to forest than the stretch of scrub jungle which fringes the Kuwana.

The country north of the Rapti differs very greatly from that to the south. The soil closely resembles that of Bansi West, and most of Awainia is given over to rice cultivation, forming part of one of the largest and most important *jarhan*-growing areas in the district. Karhi also contains a large *jarhan* tract, but it lies higher and the *rabi* cultivation predominates; formerly there was a large extent of jungle, and considerable patches of *sal* and *mahua* trees remain. The soil is mainly a good and fertile loam, stiffening into clay in the depressions. Parallel to the Rapti runs a zone of inferior land, where the drainage is too rapid for *jarhan* cultivation, the soil is often full of *reh,* and the *rabi* is generally poor. South of this and along the

Rapti lies a raised bank of fertile *bhat* soil, broken by numerous old channels of the river in the form of *naukhans* or narrow winding *jhīls*. In some places the river has cut through the high bank to the lower land behind it, so that it is bordered by stiff rice ground instead of the usual *bhat;* and at these points the flood waters often find an entrance into the interior, where they fill the large lakes and thus ensure a full supply of water for the *jarhan,* though in the north-west they are apt to do more harm than good.

South of the Rapti runs a similar line of *bhat* villages in the Bhanpur, Halaur, and Sagara tappas. Here the soil is perhaps the most fertile in the district, producing magnificent *rabi* crops with little or no irrigation, and being in most places sufficiently raised above the flood level to produce a good *kharif* as well. This *bhat* tract is bounded by the high bank, beyond which lies the *uparhar* or central upland plain. The bank follows roughly the line of the road from Domariaganj to Bansi, and on the ridge the soil is poor, often infected with *reh,* and the villages of this zone contain large areas in which early rice is the only crop. South of this is an extensive tract of stiff soil extending through Bhanpur to the northern border of Adampur and including the south-east of Halaur and the north-east corner of Chhapia. In the northern part of this tract the Ami takes its rise, and rice is the chief staple, but further south the land is higher and *jarhan* alternates with good wheat-growing country. This stiff soil gives place to a fine loam, extending through Adampur, Chhapia and Sagara, but the southern portion of the last tappa contains a very stiff clay soil in which rice is the chief crop and the *rabi* is extremely poor. The only remaining tract is that along the Kuwana, where the land is somewhat similar to the Rapti *bhat,* though more undulating and inferior; it was formerly covered with forest, and its reclamation is comparatively recent. Taking the pargana as a whole, it appears from the survey returns that about 51 per cent. of the area has a loam soil, while 43 per cent. is clay, the latter being an unusually high proportion.

At the time of the last settlement the cultivated area was 150,828 acres, and since that time there has been a considerable

increase. In 1905 it amounted to 158,171 acres or 74·6 per cent. of the whole, while 54,645 acres bore two crops in the year. Of the remaining area, 20,378 acres were returned as barren, though all but 1,000 acres were under water or occupied by village sites, roads, and the like; and 33,335 acres as culturable waste, including 5,854 acres under groves. In ordinary years about 40 per cent. of the cultivated area is irrigated, though the proportion varies with the season and can be largely expanded when necessary, as wells are easy to construct on account of the height of the water level. Tanks and ponds form the chief source of supply, the wells being usually reserved for poppy and sugarcane. The *kharif* is the more important harvest, and nearly 90 per cent. of the area sown is taken up by rice, the transplanted *jarhan* prevailing in the north and the early variety in the south. The only other *kharif* crops of importance are sugarcane and *arhar*. Wheat is the principal *rabi* crop, followed by peas, oilseeds, *gujai*, barley and poppy.

Among the cultivating classes Muhammadans, chiefly of low caste, take the lead, and as agriculturists they attain a high standard of husbandry. Brahmans follow close, but many of their holdings are proprietary, and the same tendency may be observed here as elsewhere to increase the *khudkasht* area at the expense of occupancy tenants. The superior classes of husbandmen, such as Kurmis, Ahirs, Chamars, and Koeris, also occur in fair numbers. Rents are usually paid at a fixed rate per *bigha*, but the *halbandi* system, which is common in Bansi West, also makes its appearance in this pargana. At the last settlement the accepted rent-rates ranged from Rs. 2-4-0 for the inferior grades of *palo* to Rs. 6-14-0 per acre of the best *goind*. The revenue demand of each successive revision will be found in the appendix, and also that for the last year of record.* Although an enhancement of 45 per cent. was taken at the last settlement, the initial incidence was only Re. 1-9-0 per acre of cultivation, and the proportion of the assessable assets was only 44 per cent.; while at the present time it is decidedly lower, owing to the general rise in rents. The revenue demand is liable to considerable variations from time to time, by reason of the large

*Appendix, Tables IX and X.

number of alluvial *mahals* on the Rapti which are subject to quinquennial revision of assessment.

As is the case throughout the northern tahsils, the population has increased rapidly of late years. The latest enumeration was that of 1901, and then the pargana showed an increase of 8,555 on the previous total, the number of inhabitants being 210,074, of whom 158,182 were Hindus, 51,876 Musalmans and 16 of other religions. There are 726 villages, but none are of any size, the largest being Halaur with 1,928 inhabitants. Some 20 others contain a population exceeding one thousand, but in almost every case they consist merely of a collection of small hamlets. Domariaganj, the tahsil headquarters, is the only market of importance, much of the trade with Nawabganj in Gonda passing through it, but there are several small bazars for the disposal of country produce. Means of communication are distinctly poor. The Rapti and Kuwana are navigable, but are little used, and there are no metalled roads. Even the main road from Basti to Domariaganj and the Nepal frontier is unmetalled, and is in part submerged during the rains. From Domariaganj branch roads lead to Bansi, Biskohar, and Nawabganj, while a similar road runs east from Bhanpur to Rudhauli and Mehndawal.

In early days the northern portion of the pargana was included in the Solankhi domain of Kathela, and the south half was held by a branch of the Kalhans, whose principality was known as Rasulpur Ghaus. Both of these were in the course of time overthrown by the Sarnet Rajas of Bansi, whose descendant still holds the largest estate in the pargana, including 31 revenue-free villages. Altogether, Brahmans and Rajputs own by far the greater proportion of the land, and next to them come Kayasths, their chief estate being that of Deipar. Other proprietors of note are the Pandes of Gadawar, the Sarnets of Bhanpur, the Banias of Barhni, and the Musalmans of Qadirabad. The different forms of proprietary tenure occur in much the same proportion as elsewhere: 51 villages are held by single owners, 96 are joint *zamindari*, and the rest are imperfect *pattidari*, excluding the 31 revenue-free villages. In 38 *mahals* the *birt* form of under-proprietary tenure is to be found, such holdings being derived in most instances from former Rajas of Bansi.

RUDHAULI, *Pargana* MAGHAR WEST, *Tahsil* BASTI.

This large village lies in the tappa of the same name, in 27° 2′ N. and 82° 48′ E., on the east side of the metalled road from Basti to Bansi, at a distance of 13 miles from the latter and 19 miles from the district headquarters. North of the village an unmetalled branch takes off from the main road, leading to Mehndawal; and to the west a second branch runs to Bhanpur. At the junction of the latter with the main road there is a police-station, a cattle-pound, and an inspection bungalow. In the village itself are to be found a post-office and a middle vernacular school. Well-attended markets are held weekly on Sundays. The population, which in 1872 numbered 2,092 persons, had risen at the last census to 2,671, of whom 203 were Musalmans; while Rajputs, Brahmans, Banias and Chamars constitute the bulk of the Hindu community.

Rudhauli is the chief village of a tract known as the Bajhera, which was granted to the ancestors of the present owners by their relative, the Sarnet Raja of Bansi. The Bajhera is chiefly rice land, and the country round Rudhauli lies low, its proximity to the Ami rendering it liable to be submerged during the rains. The village itself has an area of 1,792 acres, and of this little more than 1,000 acres is under cultivation, the revenue demand being Rs. 1,508. Much of the land is tilled by the proprietors, at present represented by Bhaiya Jai Lal Singh, an honorary magistrate, who owns 4,565 acres; Bhaiya Mahadeo Prasad Singh, who holds 4,338 acres; and Bhaiya Badri Prasad Singh, who resides at Athdama and owns 8,572 acres in this pargana. The Babus are unfortunately at variance among themselves, and are more concerned with their own disputes than with the welfare of their tenants; and probably to this cause may be attributed the fact that Rudhauli is one of the dirtiest villages in the district.

SHOHRATGANJ, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

The name given to a bazar erected and developed by Babu Shohrat Singh of Chandapar. The latter is a village of tappa Barhon, and stands in 27° 24′ N. and 82° 58′ E., at a distance of five miles south of the Nepal frontier and four miles from Chilia police-station, on the road from that place to Dhekahri.

Chandapar at the last census contained 915 inhabitants, including 216 Musalmans and a number of Banias. Profiting by the example of his European neighbours, Babu Shohrat Singh a few years ago established a bazar which bids fair to become one of the most important markets in the district, and this importance will be greatly enhanced by the construction of the new line from Uska to Tulsipur, on which there is a station known as Shohratganj, a short distance to the south of Chandapar, in the village of Karankol. The traffic in grain is considerable, especially in rice, which is brought hither from the neighbouring villages and from Nepal. The proprietor has been the first to introduce into the district machinery for oil-pressing and for husking rice. He has erected a dispensary and an inspection bungalow at his own cost. The place also possesses a post-office and a flourishing upper primary school.

SONHAN, *vide* KOTHILA.

TAMA, *Pargana* MAGHAR EAST, *Tahsil* KHALILABAD.

The village of Tama gives its name to a tappa of pargana Mahuli East, but the greater part of it belongs to tappa Haveli South of pargana Maghar East. The former portion is very insignificant, having a population of 92 souls only; but that in Maghar is larger, containing at the last census 422 inhabitants. Tama lies in 26° 42′ N. and 83° 2′ E., some six miles south of Khalilabad and 25 miles from Basti, a short distance to the east of the road from Khalilabad to Chhapra-ghat. The place is only noticeable as being the site of a large fair, which takes place on the Sheoratri festival in the month of Phagun, and is attended by some 30,000 persons. The assemblage is in honour of Mahadeo, to whose *lingam* is attributed a miraculous origin, the story going that many centuries ago it suddenly sprang up in the forest near the village. It was there discovered by herdsmen and has since been an object of peculiar sanctity; for a long time it stood in the open, surrounded by a plinth, but eventually one of the Bansi Rajas erected a temple over it, at the same time excavating a well and a large tank with a flight of stone steps. He also planted a mango grove, and placed some Goshains of Unaula in Gorakhpur in charge, giving them the revenue-free grant of the whole

village. They continued to hold Tama untaxed till 1838, when the grant was resumed and the Goshains admitted to engage for the revenue. There is an aided school here, but nothing else of any importance.

TILAKPUR, *Pargana* BANSI WEST, *Tahsil* DOMARIAGANJ.

A small village of tappa Budhi in the west of the pargana, lying in latitude 27° 20′ N. and longitude 82° 35′ E., some three miles to the south-east of Biskohar, about eight miles from Domariaganj, and forty miles from the district headquarters. The place merely deserves mention as the headquarters of a police circle, and is otherwise quite insignificant. There is neither school nor market, and the nearest post-office is at Biskohar. The population at the last census numbered but 226 souls, of whom 108 were Musalmans. The latter own the village, and cultivate one-third of the land, their profits are considerable, as the rent-roll is Rs. 487 and the revenue Rs. 186.

USKA, *Pargana* BANSI EAST, *Tahsil* BANSI.

The name of Uska properly belongs to a village of tappa Untapar, on the east bank of the Dhamela, in 27° 12′ N. and 83° 8′ E., but is now applied to the markets which have sprung up on the west bank in the villages of Parti, Rehra and Mughalha of tappa Nagwa. The market lies on the most important route from Nepal to Gorakhpur, and is built on the bank of a river which up to this point is navigable throughout the year. Moreover, till recently Uska was the nearest railway station to the Nepal border; and to these circumstancss the place owed its great prosperity, being for many years the most important trade centre in the district. The traffic has been somewhat diminished latterly by the extension of the railway to the bazars of Naugarh and Shohratganj; but the volume is still very considerable. The exports and imports are the same as those enumerated in the article on Lotan, but Uska is specially remarkable as the centre to which gravitates most of the Nepalese mustard and the various fibre manufactures. It has a large export trade, not only in the produce of Nepal, but also in that of the surrounding British territory, consisting mainly of unhusked rice. Till the

construction of the railway, the grain was sent down the Dhamela and Rapti in boats to Barhaj in Gorakhpur; considerable use is still made of the river, but the railway naturally catches the bulk of the traffic.

Uska lies at a distance of 46 miles from Basti and 14 miles from the tahsil headquarters. A metalled road leads north to Naugarh and Birdpur, and a branch from this goes to Kakrahighat and Bansi. The railway station is in the west of the town and close by, in the village of Parti, are the police-station, post and telegraph offices, the registration outpost, and an inspection bungalow. There is also a middle vernacular school. Markets are held twice a week in Uska proper and Rehra, and weekly in Parti.

The bazar was first started by Mr. Oelsen, a Dane, who obtained the Sohas Grant, about eighty years ago. It was at one time suggested that the importance of the mart and the magnitude of its trade would justify the creation of a municipality and the imposition of an octroi tax. It was decided, however, that in view of the nature of the trade, a tax which would tend to become a transit duty would damage the prosperity of the place; and resort was therefore had to section 66 of the Land Revenue Act (XIX of 1873), whereby the Local Government was empowered to impose on the collection of sanctioned cesses such conditions as it thought fit regarding police, conservancy or other establishment connected with the bazar, on account of which the cesses were levied. This power was used in the case of Uska, and since 1889 an annual income of Rs. 2,200 has been thus obtained. It is expended, as in the case of ordinary Act XX towns, on watch and ward, conservancy, and minor local improvements.

At the census of 1872 the population of the combined area forming the town of Uska was 3,212. This rose to 5,079 at the next enumeration of 1881, and to 6,634 ten years later. At the last census of 1901 the number of inhabitants was 6,718, of whom 5,718 were Hindus, 990 Musalmans, and 10 of other religions. Banias are the prevailing Hindu caste.

GAZETTEER

OF

BASTI.

APPENDIX.

GAZETTEER

OF

BASTI.

APPENDIX.

CONTENTS.

Table I.—*Population by Tahsils*, 1901.

Tahsíl.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Domariaganj ...	322,321	163,007	159,314	240,238	121,744	118,494	82,066	41,254	40,812	17	9	8
Bansi	402,277	203,414	198,863	332,701	168,112	164,589	69,552	35,289	34,263	24	13	11
Haraiya	333,801	169,626	164,175	306,429	155,735	150,694	27,306	13,859	13,447	66	32	34
Basti	393,079	200,192	192,887	343,102	174,829	168,273	49,889	25,310	24,579	88	53	35
Khalilabad	394,675	199,317	195,358	323,766	163,719	160,047	70,875	35,587	35,288	34	11	23
District Total ...	1,846,153	935,556	910,597	1,546,236	784,139	762,097	2,99,688	1,51,299	1,48,389	229	118	111

Table II.—*Population by Thanas*, 1901.

Thana.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Domariaganj	123,522	61,206	62,316	90,561	45,790	44,771	32,957	15,413	17,544	4	3	1
Chhapia	67,534	36,677	30,857	51,756	28,770	22,986	15,766	7,901	7,865	12	6	6
Intwa	51,620	25,432	26,188	35,798	17,426	18,372	15,822	8,006	7,816	...	...	...
Dhebarua	28,212	13,630	14,582	22,868	10,917	11,951	5,344	2,713	2,631	...	...	...
Tilakpur	51,433	26,062	25,371	39,255	19,916	19,339	12,177	6,145	6,032	1	1	...
Bansi	115,718	53,360	62,358	97,676	44,278	53,398	18,042	9,082	8,960	...	...	...
Chilia	111,631	56,027	55,604	109,339	54,678	54,661	2,291	1,348	943	1	1	...
Uska	70,555	35,610	34,945	69,401	35,044	34,357	1,143	560	583	11	6	5
Bankata	63,218	35,488	27,730	30,025	17,893	12,132	33,193	17,595	15,598	...	...	...
Lotan	47,588	26,109	21,479	41,017	22,741	18,276	6,559	3,363	3,196	12	5	7
Haraiya	52,212	17,261	34,951	48,712	15,475	33,237	3,500	1,786	1,714	...	...	...
Chhaoni	73,761	42,230	31,531	69,182	39,876	29,306	4,524	2,327	2,197	55	27	28
Captainganj	69,482	38,711	30,771	64,673	36,254	28,419	4,809	2,457	2,352	...	...	...
Paikaulia	66,952	33,726	33,226	59,362	29,839	29,523	7,579	3,882	3,697	11	5	6
Parasrampur	55,728	29,687	26,041	50,372	27,018	23,354	5,356	2,669	2,687	...	...	...
Basti	135,403	71,072	64,331	116,250	61,187	55,063	19,066	9,841	9,225	87	44	43
Kalwari	69,694	39,683	30,011	49,460	29,006	20,454	20,234	10,677	9,557	...	...	...
Sonhan	60,759	30,768	29,991	54,576	27,664	26,912	6,183	3,104	3,079	...	...	...
Rudhauli	68,116	28,775	39,341	59,928	24,946	34,982	8,188	3,829	4,359	...	...	...
Dudhara	77,124	38,506	38,618	44,838	22,430	22,408	32,282	16,075	16,207	4	1	3
Budhabandh	50,377	25,724	24,653	45,330	23,267	22,063	5,046	2,456	2,590	1	1	...
Khalilabad	68,582	33,795	34,787	59,336	29,076	30,260	9,244	4,717	4,527	2	2	...
Mahuli	62,797	42,078	20,719	56,245	38,822	17,423	6,552	3,256	3,296	...	...	...
Mehndawal	90,900	45,988	44,912	76,414	38,669	37,745	14,458	7,303	7,155	28	16	12
Barakoni	47,403	24,065	23,338	42,389	21,536	20,853	5,014	2,529	2,485	...	...	...
Dhanghata	65,832	23,886	41,946	61,473	21,621	39,852	4,359	2,265	2,094	...	...	...
Total ...	1,846,153	935,556	9,10,597	1,546,236	784,139	762,097	299,688	151,299	148,389	229	118	111

TABLE III.—*Vital Statistics.*

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1891 ...	58,766	30,520	28,246	32·91	52,593	27,296	25,297	29·45
1892 ...	63,397	32,651	30,746	35·50	61,962	32,202	29,760	34·70
1893 ...	68,431	35,731	32,700	38·32	33,533	17,162	16,371	18·78
1894 ...	58,637	30,306	28,331	32·83	71,589	36,547	35,042	40·09
1895 ...	49,334	25,611	23,723	27·62	62,059	31,393	30,666	34·75
1896 ...	51,048	26,668	24,380	28·58	51,007	27,553	23,454	28·56
1897 ...	49,649	25,756	23,893	27·80	58,876	32,925	25,951	32·97
1898 ...	82,268	42,067	40,201	46·07	42,960	22,543	20,417	24·05
1899 ...	92,718	47,878	44,840	51·92	55,103	28,844	26,259	30·85
1900 ...	74,057	37,891	36,166	41·47*	52,106	27,689	24,417	29·18*
1901 ...	75,042	38,571	36,471	40·64	45,854	24,307	21,547	24·84
1902 ...	81,049	41,570	39,479	43·90	49,747	26,247	23,500	26·95
1903 ...	82,009	42,167	39,842	44·42	59,056	30,548	28,508	31·99
1904 ...	83,995	43,215	40,780	45·50	56,848	28,944	27,904	30·79
1905 ...	69,836	36,154	33,682	37·82	71,481	36,590	34,891	38·72
1906 ...								
1907 ...								
1908 ...								
1909 ...								
1910 ...								
1911 ...								
1912 ...								
1913 ...								
1914 ...								

* The rates from 1891 to 1900 are calculated from the returns of the 1891 census.

TABLE IV.—*Deaths according to cause.*

Year.	Total deaths from—					
	All causes.	Plague.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel complaints.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1891	52,593	...	11,294	529	33,455	346
1892	61,962	...	15,250	346	39,161	326
1893	33,533	...	845	351	25,028	79
1894	71,589	...	12,694	367	50,568	223
1895	62,059	...	7,769	65	47,492	161
1896	51,007	...	4,976	843	37,906	147
1897	58,876	...	2,061	3,255	43,750	246
1898	42,960	...	291	124	30,966	120
1899	55,103	...	146	42	39,399	119
1900	52,106	...	4,169	34	35,977	104
1901	45,854	...	2,048	4	32,983	73
1902	49,747	114	3,027	18	34,129	145
1903	59,056	1,250	1,526	59	40,222	102
1904	56,848	2,016	1,510	118	38,972	73
1905	71,481	4,044	12,654	39	41,732	98
1906						
1907						
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						

TABLE V.—*Statistics of Cultivation and Irrigation,* 1312 *Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Total area.	Waste.	Culturable.	Cultivated.							Double cropped.
				Irrigated.					Dry.	Total.	
				Total.	Canal.	Wells.	Tanks.	Other sources.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Rasulpur ...	211,884	20,378	33,335	43,893	...	13,740	20,875	9,278	114,278	158,171	54,645
Bansi West ...	163,018	12,628	36,222	2,353	...	751	1,164	438	111,815	114,168	32,050
Tahsil Domariaganj	374,902	33,006	69,557	46,246	...	14,491	22,039	9,716	226,093	272,339	86,695
Bansi East ...	361,120	35,572	54,495	46,365	54	2,460	23,236	20,615	224,688	271,053	107,782
Binayakpur ...	31,006	2,957	2,824	166	...	24	50	92	25,059	25,225	12,664
Tahsil Bansi ...	392,126	38,529	57,319	46,531	54	2,484	23,286	20,707	249,747	296,278	120,446
Amorha ...	176,110	18,603	39,502	54,217	...	34,833	16,581	2,803	63,788	118,005	51,266
Basti West ...	71,758	5,752	15,501	29,709	...	20,799	7,547	1,363	20,796	50,505	19,169
Nagar West ...	72,326	7,788	15,786	22,519	...	16,081	5,847	591	26,233	48,752	19,445
Tahsil Haraiya ...	320,194	32,143	70,789	106,445	...	71,713	29,975	4,757	110,817	217,262	89,880
Basti East ...	108,326	11,067	17,204	46,232	...	18,694	19,302	8,236	33,823	80,055	29,387
Maghar West ...	71,883	5,853	15,192	29,239	...	9,551	6,016	13,672	21,599	50,838	20,268
Mahuli West ...	104,335	11,670	17,834	38,487	...	18,111	16,768	3,608	36,344	74,831	28,879
Nagar East ...	61,445	7,513	12,243	19,465	...	12,491	5,621	1,353	22,224	41,689	14,980
Tahsil Basti ...	345,989	36,103	62,473	133,423	...	58,847	47,707	26,869	113,990	247,413	93,514
Maghar East ...	221,509	24,089	41,186	83,223	...	14,374	60,040	8,809	73,011	156,234	57,212
Mahuli East ...	134,451	15,507	22,758	38,539	...	16,334	20,505	1,700	57,647	96,186	31,629
Tahsil Khalilabad ..	355,960	39,596	63,944	121,762		30,708	80,545	10,509	130,658	252,420	88,841
District Total ...	1,789,171	179,377	324,082	454,407	54	178,243	203,552	72,558	831,305	1,285,712	479,376

TABLE VI.—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Domariaganj.*

Year.	Rabi. Total.	Wheat	Barley alone and mixed.	Peas.	Gram.	Linseed.	Opium.	Kharif. Total.	Rice.	Arhar.	Maize.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.												
1305	108,540	28,613	43,527	15,383	3,015	8,696	3,775	213,502	176,017	13,258	2,900	4,336
1306	118,551	28,361	46,109	20,650	4,124	8,996	5,677	216,315	179,212	20,841	3,536	5,728
1307	117,713	28,690	45,000	24,525	3,321	6,502	5,814	215,853	184,490	17,290	2,763	5,567
1308	117,792	24,632	49,815	21,549	4,574	7,301	5,754	220,616	178,750	28,699	2,609	4,128
1309	123,660	28,879	42,698	24,480	8,424	8,115	5,187	225,717	178,846	25,546	4,807	5,784
1310	130,811	31,182	53,550	25,012	8,343	11,626	4,894	226,370	178,095	28,052	6,626	4,795
1311	151,444	33,179	51,645	28,760	5,553	20,992	5,725	219,339	173,390	26,072	6,463	4,601
1312	135,447	34,366	44,194	29,879	3,199	12,980	5,009	223,392	177,390	26,579	4,916	5,511
1313	121,570	31,227	48,498	23,299	4,399	3,404	5,114	220,758	183,234	16,255	4,848	6,919
1314												
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Bansi.*

Year.	Rabi. Total.	Rabi. Wheat	Rabi. Barley alone and mixed.	Rabi. Peas.	Rabi. Gram.	Rabi. Linseed.	Rabi. Opium.	Kharif. Total.	Kharif. Rice.	Kharif. Arhar.	Kharif. Maize.	Kharif. Sugar-cane.
Fasli.												
1305	155,687	22,224	82,657	17,415	3,809	18,219	1,575	242,606	199,171	20,250	7,895	1,953
1306	165,257	22,237	88.124	25,833	3,966	3,877	1,691	221,122	178,146	15,156	12,563	3,742
1307	164,211	23,938	90,717	27,655	4,997	7,624	1,960	214,982	179,254	13,280	10,011	2,523
1308	148,511	22,716	85,621	19,502	4,113	9,116	1,842	242,987	197,280	24,403	9,808	1,744
1309	164,063	20,474	79,132	25,008	8,666	18,354	1,686	243,298	187,306	19,610	15,835	3,204
1310	162,726	22,812	76,709	24,432	8,206	20,486	1,362	245,460	186,437	22,289	18,454	2,827
1311	176,603	22,635	83,185	28,124	5,459	26,544	1,494	229,394	177.874	16,682	19,014	1,913
1312	175,337	25,102	77,933	35,138	4,024	20,425	1,302	239,557	185,554	24,097	15,233	2,305
1313	155,763	20,188	83,562	25,969	5,074	7,443	1,607	237,035	190,872	16,432	14,591	3,109
1314												
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Haraiya.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.				
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley alone and mixed.	Peas.	Gram.	Linseed.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Arhar.	Maize.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.												
1305	123,536	33,983	35,553	31,020	2,998	7,042	8,757	155,501	84,896	18,915	20,220	14,341
1306	132,147	33,969	37,143	35,865	4,338	7,719	8,625	153,176	79,517	19,459	20,245	14,202
1307	134,117	36,082	35,280	35,767	5,056	7,950	8,998	150,236	83,938	18,676	15,898	14,157
1308	130,237	35,042	34,602	33,782	6,406	8,716	8,449	159,878	84,498	23,503	19,451	13,356
1309	135,170	33,960	34,185	37,422	10,027	6,279	9,083	162,023	77,079	21,921	23,856	14,278
1310	138,222	39,416	34,025	36,014	9,062	6,763	8,988	161,171	82,345	23,554	21,847	12,545
1311	159,146	41,446	50,191	41,243	8,628	13,186	9,504	156,433	75,000	21,890	24,743	11,929
1312	144,061	41,120	35,746	38,829	6,115	9,323	8,244	162,761	83,629	23,150	22,580	14,436
1313	140,913	43,026	35,556	35,748	7,760	4,076	9,271	163,301	89,283	17,605	21,497	15,354
1314												
1315												
1316												
1317												
1318												
1319												
1320												
1321												
1322												
1323												

TABLE VI—(continued.)—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Basti.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.				
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley alone and mixed.	Peas.	Gram.	Linseed.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Arhar.	Maize.	Sugarcane.
Fasli.												
1305 ...	136,606	33,996	52,202	36,180	3,245	7,971	2,480	180,233	125,585	22,449	5,070	15,939
1306 ...	130,279	29,411	47,454	39,519	4,012	5,011	2,027	175,149	123,887	16,785	5,073	17,118
1307 ...	147,676	33,700	52,405	45,551	5,263	4,800	2,745	174,322	127,536	14,489	4,826	16,951
1308 ...	144,353	33,877	41,430	41,048	5,326	4,879	2,785	181,765	126,109	21,119	4,491	17,145
1309 ...	142,397	33,642	47,809	43,216	8,838	4,183	2,361	185,101	123,802	21,668	5,607	18,792
1310 ...	151,003	37,025	49,919	43,176	9,127	7,119	2,197	185,150	122,295	25,010	7,066	16,727
1311 ...	169,443	37,607	58,007	48,881	8,989	9,701	2,480	179,979	118,237	23,129	7,245	16,190
1312 ...	156,344	37,697	50,983	49,050	5,918	7,364	2,107	184,042	124,440	22,438	6,165	18,766
1313 ...	149,017	36,148	53,692	43,662	7,405	2,442	2,434	182,608	127,894	17,029	6,277	19,257
1314 ...												
1315 ...												
1316 ...												
1317 ...												
1318 ...												
1319 ...												
1320 ...												
1321 ...												
1322 ...												
1323 ...												

TABLE VI—(concluded).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Khalilabad.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.				
	Total.	Wheat.	Barley alone and mixed.	Peas.	Gram.	Linseed.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Arhar.	Maize.	Sugarcane.
Fasli.												
1305 ...	148,433	37,219	65,688	27,917	3,802	5,643	1,925	167,007	106,398	20,115	8,212	9,087
1306 ...	165,566	37,743	69,727	39,847	5,206	6,362	1,942	152,073	96,005	21,719	7,597	9,583
1307 ...	174,905	39,129	69,743	43,534	7,594	8,020	2,135	150,157	106,185	11,345	4,341	8,922
1308 ...	159,201	39,649	37,711	38,750	6,395	7,007	1,553	160,339	101,196	25,332	5,717	9,205
1309 ...	159,137	38,557	57,981	40,242	11,399	5,384	1,753	166,894	97,289	30,846	6,885	10,635
1310 ...	166,144	40,543	62,008	38,846	11,061	8,073	1,460	164,391	96,408	31,205	7,853	9,816
1311 ...	190,726	42,224	77,182	45,640	9,683	9,959	1,644	157,878	91,732	29,508	8,573	9,015
1312 ...	179,207	42,745	67,578	47,446	6,686	8,970	1,475	160,003	97,363	30,458	6,793	9,946
1313 ...	177,557	39,230	70,390	45,407	11,190	4,779	1,726	162,308	105,576	23,189	7,457	10,484
1314 ...												
1315 ...												
1316 ...												
1317 ...												
1318 ...												
1319 ...												
1320 ...												
1321 ...												
1322 ...												
1323 ...												

TABLE VII.—*Criminal Justice.*

Year.	Number of persons convicted or bound over in respect of—												Cases under—	
	Offences against public tranquillity (Chapter VIII).	Offences affecting life.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Cattle theft.	Criminal force and assault.	Theft.	Robbery and dakaiti.	Receiving stolen property.	Criminal trespass.	Bad livelihood.	Keeping the peace.	Opium Act.	Excise Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1898 ...	98	23	33	2	38	33	322	28	145	299	66	28	15	24
1899 ...	56	25	21	3	14	19	251	39	133	192	89	18	6	29
1900 ...	126	19	8	...	16	21	265	9	123	270	57	67	4	14
1901 ...	65	25	10	2	34	22	259	8	105	246	162	81	7	9
1902 ...	69	20	22	2	24	29	242	17	65	218	108	95	6	17
1903 ...	90	26	...	...	...	10	155	19	48	176	98	187	2	12
1904 ...	65	19	32	4	...	18	112	20	32	126	74	31	2	15
1905 ...	47	33	51	...	...	19	158	34	79	118	149	32	4	18
1906 ...														
1907 ...														
1908 ...														
1909 ...														
1910 ...														
1911 ...														
1912 ...														
1913 ...														
1914 ...														
1915 ...														

TABLE VIII.—*Cognizable crime.*

Year.	Number of cases investigated by police.			Number of persons.		
	Suo motu.	By orders of Magistrate.	Sent up for trial.	Tried.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1898	2,368	...	2,368	1,409	260	1,149
1899	2,124	...	2,124	1,278	218	1,060
1900	1,934	15	1,949	1,336	195	1,141
1901	1,676	88	1,764	1,123	170	953
1902	1,490	112	1,602	1,059	230	829
1903	1,386	47	1,433	1,258	505	753
1904	1,514	34	1,548	1,391	633	758
1905	1,634	53	1,687	1,011	251	760
1906						
1907						
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						
1915						

NOTE.—Columns 2 and 3 should show cases instituted during the year.

TABLE IX.—*Revenue demand at successive settlements.*

Pargana, and tahsil.	Year of Settlement.							
	1803.	1806.	1809.	1813.	1838.	1859.	1889.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Rasulpur ...	36,584	37,792	49,903	63,414	1,28,050	1,50,820	2,23,647	
Bansi West	3,547	5,032	9,831	33,635	93,306	1,07,976	1,55,311	
Tahsil Domariaganj.	40,131	42,824	59,734	97,049	2,21,356	2,58,796	3,78,958	
Bansi East	20,459	16,592	27,777	44,432	1,49,914	1,99,523	3,71,931	
Binayakpur	382	382	679	1,602	7,174	16,020	31,572	
Tahsil Bansi	20,841	16,974	28,456	46,034	1,57,088	2,15,543	4,03,503	
Amorha ...	40,787	1,05,866	1,09,615	1,09,176	1,34,601	1,63,303	2,28,805	
Nagar West	22,774	28,839	29,207	26,909	38,341	62,304	85,913	
Basti West	400	11,802	10,597	15,405	36,020	57,285	87,881	
Tahsil Haraiya ...	63,961	1,46,507	1,49,419	1,51,490	2,08,962	2,82,892	4,02,599	
Basti East	620	16,936	17,765	27,206	64,636	92,889	1,55,893	
Nagar East	13,831	25,133	25,977	24,440	38,559	56,398	75,684	
Maghar West ...	11,672	11,639	8,698	10,966	41,870	53,102	81,586	
Mahuli West ...	24,140	26,568	26,839	28,007	97,591	73,972	1,16,021	
Tahsil Basti	50,263	80,276	79,279	90,619	2,42,656	2,76,361	4,29,184	
Maghar East ..	21,698	26,861	30,699	39,058	1,01,748	1,59,059	2,38,795	
Mahuli East ...	29,766	28,127	29,873	34,414	72,575	92,342	1,38,156	
Tahsil Khalilabad ..	51,464	54,988	60,572	73,472	1,74,323	2,51,401	3,76,951	
Total District ...	2,26,660	3,41,569	3,77,460	4,58,664	10,04,385	12,84,993	19,91,195	

TABLE X.—*Present demand for revenue and cesses, 1312 Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Where included in *Ain-i-Akbari.*	Revenue.	Cesses.	Total.	Incidence per acre.	
					Cultivated.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rasulpur ...	Rasulpur ...	2,21,929	28,633	2,50,562	1·58	1·18
Bansi West ...	Kathela, Ghaus ...	1,55,462	19,163	1,74,625	1·53	1·07
Tahsil Domariaganj.	...	3,77,391	47,796	4,25,187	1·56	1·13
Bansi East ...	Ratanpur Maghar,	3,65,999	48,175	4,14,174	1·53	1·51
Binayakpur ...	Binayakpur ..	31,091	3,792	34,883	1·38	1·12
Tahsil Bansi ...	...	3,97,090	51,967	4,49,057	1·51	1·14
Amorha ...	Amorha ...	2,23,762	5,357	2,29,119	1·94	1·30
Nagar West ...	Rihlapara ...	74,871	568	75,439	1·54	1·04
Basti West ...	Mandwa ...	86,309	2,694	89,003	1·76	1·23
Tahsil Haraiya ...	...	3,84,942	8,619	3,93,561	1·81	1·23
Basti East ...	Mandwa ...	1,52,893	18,790	1,71,683	2·14	1·58
Nagar East ...	Rihlapara ...	73,360	8,974	82,334	1·97	1·34
Maghar West ...	Ratanpur Maghar,	79,910	9,818	89,728	1·76	1·24
Mahuli West ...	Mahuli ...	1,17,396	14,509	1,31,905	1·76	1·26
Tahsil Basti ...	...	4,23,559	52,091	4,75,650	1·92	1·37
Maghar East ...	Ratanpur Maghar,	2,34,933	29,076	2,64,009	1·69	1·19
Mahuli East ...	Mahuli ...	1,40,040	17,328	1,57,368	1·64	1·17
Tahsil Khalilabad,	...	3,74,973	46,404	4,21,377	1·67	1·18
Total District ...	...	19,57,955	2,06,877	21,64,832	1·68	1·21

Table XI.—*Excise.*

Year.	Receipts from foreign liquors.	Country spirit.		Receipts from *tári* and *sendhi*.	Drugs.			Opium.		Total receipts.	Total charges.	Incidence of receipts per 10,000 of population from—			Number of shops for sale of—		
		Receipts.	Consumption in gallons.		Total receipts.	Consumption in maunds of— *Gánja.*	Consumption in maunds of— *Charas.*	Total receipts.	Consumption.			Liquor, including *tári.*	Drugs.	Opium.	Country spirit.	Drugs.	Opium.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
1890-91 ...	...	47,565	14,815	5,221	12,666	Not available.		2,959	6 36	68,450	1,402	296	71	17	205	210	11
1891-92 ...	...	43,592	17,590	4,399	12,136	Ditto.		3,057	6 32	63,224	2,015	269	68	17	223	210	11
1892-93 ...	6	31,381	15,625	5,694	13,703	27 0	14 1	4,136	9 20	54,938	5,091	207	76	23	189	211	11
1893-94 ...	...	28,503	14,040	5,255	10,200	29 3	6 8	2,660	6 7	46,629	1,878	307	57	15	185	171	11
1894-95 ...	...	25,985	9,426	4,098	12,000	16 13	8 0	2,391	6 5	44,536	646	247	67	13	164	171	11
1895-96 ...	...	29,977	9,226	5,191	14,208	14 4	10 12	2,521	7 10	51,948	1,471	274	79	14	188	145	11
1896-97 ...	...	21,562	8,210	6,271	6,378	14 6	8 15	2,344	6 20	36,558	150	207	36	13	184	145	24
1897-98 ...	...	22,931	11,831	5,667	8,150	20 32	11 35	2,610	7 5	39,390	599	234	45	14	194	181	24
1898-99 ...	...	20,991	15,209	5,656	8,150	18 8	12 21	2,996	8 35	37,866	1,594	218	77	17	165	198	26
1899-1900 ...	...	29,949	14,734	5,956	10,926	16 9	16 22	3,068	8 22	49,947	1,566	323	89	17	167	198	25
1900-01 ...	...	50,263	14,917	7,371	17,555	8 1	11 15	3,211	8 14	78,408	1,719	312	95	17	164	194	25
1901-02 ...	192	54,424	17,123	8,127	18,855	7 6	12 24	3,515	9 6	85,520	2,050	340	102	19	164	194	25
1902-03 ...	48	63,495	18,572	8,649	21,292	6 8	11 10	3,647	9 13	97,136	2,234	392	116	20	164	194	25
1903-04 ...	...	73,764	17,968	6,342	19,715	3 8	14 3	3,740	9 32	1,03,564	2,622	435	107	20	192	194	25
1904-05 ...	...	79,741	17,948	6,340	19,949	5 26	12 24	3.791	10 12	1,09.825	2,020	468	108	21	187	194	20
1905-06 ...	...	71,708	14,218	9,125	19,453	4 5	12 3	3,403	9 20½	1,03,690	1,617	439	106	18	187	194	20
1906-07 ...																	
1907-08 ...																	
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	
1914-15 ...																	

TABLE XII.—*Stamps.*

Year.	Receipts from— Non-Judicial.	Court fee, including copies.	All sources.	Total charges.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	32,137	74,922	1,07,143	1,660
1891-92	32,361	74,354	1,06,826	1,757
1892-93	34,772	80,284	1,15,142	1,885
1893-94	36,857	83,686	1,20,644	2,411
1894-95	40,782	74,263	1,15,198	2,341
1895-96	35,424	71,176	1,06,671	2,047
1896-97	39,049	67,154	1,06,563	2,156
1897-98	38,073	68,855	1,08,259	2,240
1898-99	33,220	73,597	1,08,697	1,515
1899-1900	36,569	75,948	1,14,667	1,960
1900-01	41,290	88,706	1,32,084	*2,134
1901-02	41,962	1,03,890	1,48,101	3,626
1902-03	37,734	83,710	1,23,428	3,724
1903-04	37,351	86,057	1,25,512	3,340
1904-05	39,997	97,985	1,40,315	3,315
1905-06	41,702	1,00,880	1,45,034	3,514
1906-07				
1907-08				
1908-09				
1909-10				
1910-11				
1911-12				
1912-13				
1913-14				
1914-15				

*Discount only.

TABLE XIII.—*Income-tax.*

Year.	Total receipts.	Collected by companies.		Profits of companies.		Other sources, Part IV.				Total charges.	Objections under Part IV.	
		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.			Number filed.	Wholly or partly successful.
						Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
1895-96	28,929	...	...	...	...	1,290	18,997	69	5,891	2,418	888	244
1896-97	25,744	...	...	...	...	1,157	17,226	62	5,237	903	832	305
1897-98	25,082	...	...	...	...	1,080	16,635	67	5,071	173	598	98
1898-99	25,869	...	...	...	...	1,085	16,909	71	5,713	302	419	58
1899-1900	26,743	...	...	...	...	1,118	17,067	83	6,568	675	495	141
1900-01	27,008	...	...	...	...	1,120	17,727	77	5,915	339	478	73
1901-02	29,506	...	...	...	...	1,189	18,678	80	6,811	169	731	62
1902-03	33,781	...	...	...	...	1,339	21,985	92	8,093	183	902	84
1903-04	23,233	...	...	...	...	393	10,836	107	9,299	69	331	52
1904-05	24,514	...	...	...	...	435	11,670	115	9,866	74	413	101
1905-06	25,078	...	...	...	...	420	11,329	124	10,789	66	337	47
1906-07												
1907-08												
1908-09												
1909-10												
1910-11												
1911-12												
1912-13												
1913-14												
1914-15												
1915-16												

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Domariaganj. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Year.	Tahsil Bansi. Under Rs. 2,000 Assessees.	Under Rs. 2,000 Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.
1895-96 ...	268	4,157	7	503	1895-96 ...	298	4,232	14	1,328
1896-97 ...	259	4,054	7	510	1896-97 ...	274	3,886	18	1,346
1897-98 ...	242	3,850	9	659	1897-98 ...	198	2,887	21	1,336
1898-99 ...	240	3,807	12	909	1898-99 ...	190	2,841	20	1,487
1899-1900 ...	260	3,934	12	869	1899-1900 ...	215	3,043	23	1,852
1900-01 ...	254	4,084	13	822	1900-01 ...	231	3,667	21	1,675
1901-02 ...	257	4,022	15	958	1901-02 ...	265	3,981	21	1,786
1902-03 ...	268	4,206	12	844	1902-03 ...	315	4,915	28	2,451
1903-04 ...	68	1,880	13	951	1903-04 ...	82	2,304	36	3,407
1904-05 ...	65	1,771	18	1,343	1904-05 ...	79	2,173	39	3,427
1905-06 ...	60	1,604	22	1,585	1905-06 ...	85	2,316	41	3,953
1906-07 ...					1906-07 ...				
1907-08 ...					1907-08 ...				
1908-09 ...					1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...					1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...					1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...					1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...					1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...					1913-14 ...				
1914-15 ...					1914-15 ...				
1915-16 ...					1915-16 ...				

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Haraiya.				Tahsil Basti.				Tahsil Khalilabad.			
	Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.		Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.		Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.	
	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1895-96 ...	259	3,758	11	582	283	3,997	25	2,310	182	2,853	12	1,168
1896-97 ...	215	3,135	6	375	265	3,797	23	2,073	144	2,354	8	933
1897-98 ...	198	2,956	5	323	304	4,654	25	2,135	138	2,288	7	618
1898-99 ...	207	3,047	6	396	304	4,739	28	2,296	144	2,475	5	625
1899-1900...	196	2,886	6	469	292	4,604	32	2,428	155	2,600	10	950
1900-01 ...	189	2,804	8	543	281	4,560	29	2,231	165	2,611	6	644
1901-02 ...	210	3,193	8	497	288	4,751	28	2,381	169	2,731	8	1,189
1902-03 ...	235	3,718	9	701	283	4,914	33	2,942	238	4,232	10	1,155
1903-04 ...	58	1,552	13	958	100	2,766	31	2,754	85	2,334	14	1,229
1904 05 ...	71	1,915	12	924	110	2,965	27	2,525	110	2,846	19	1,647
1905-06 ...	70	1,872	12	929	103	2,878	27	2,463	102	2,659	22	1,858
1906-07 ...												
1907-08 ...												
1908-09 ...												
1909-10 ...												
1910-11 ...												
1911-12 ...												
1912-13 ...												
1913-14 ...												
1914-15 ...												
1915-16 ...												

TABLE XV.—*District Board.*

Year.	Receipts.							Expenditure.									
	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Ferries.	Total expenditure.	Contributions to Provincial funds.	General Administration.	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	711	4,127	...	433	...	4,536	...	83,328	...	941	18,471	11,505	...	867	51,544	...	...
1891-92 ...	566	8,060	...	381	...	6,390	...	85,270	...	933	19,420	10,474	...	892	53,551	...	...
1892-93 ..	587	3,847	...	203	142	3,386	...	68,418	...	990	18,641	11,433	...	1,119	36,235	...	...
1893-94 ...	880	4,095	...	422	67	2,976	...	77,718	...	983	19,539	11,618	...	1,170	44,408	...	...
1894-95 ...	1,275	4,000	...	518	60	2,940	...	73,991	...	1,120	19,360	10,665	...	740	42,106	...	...
1895-96 ...	1,273	4,196	...	405	151	4,101	...	71,375	...	1,158	19,174	10,713	...	171	40,159	...	...
1896-97 ...	1,309	4,460	...	316	51	3,639	...	73,197	...	1,127	20,413	11,897	...	144	39,616	...	...
1897-98 ...	1,320	4,310	...	11	650	2,371	...	1,17,793	25,328	1,026	22,792	12,937	...	...	55,710	...	...
1898-99 ...	1,289	5,003	...	...	1,378	2,206	...	1,34,147	42,592	1,527	22,133	13,593	56	...	53,281	...	965
1899-1900 ...	2,253	12,031	...	...	15,478	*10,212	...	1,43,765	35,754	1,647	28,369	13,391	...	96	56,734	6,809	965
1900-01 ...	2,239	4,702	...	...	1,713	9,354	†13,608	1,42,063	34,647	1,699	29,465	14,470	264	81	53,144	6,293	2,000
1901-02 ...	2,961	4,690	...	...	1,450	9,778	12,757	1,43,489	38,500	1,736	31,314	13,504	396	99	50,295	6,345	1,300
1902-03 ...	4,305	4,833	...	...	1,063	11,194	14,081	1,51,544	6,119	1,771	34,842	14,570	486	90	86,172	6,194	1,300
1903-04 ...	4,318	4,305	...	...	845	11,830	14,846	1,56,430	200	1,879	39,269	15,257	418	49	93,224	6,134	...
1904-05 ...	4,039	4,753	...	...	898	11,130	12,396	1,78,423	3,611	2,392	41,384	15,764	431	169	91,151	6,143	17,378
1905-06 ...	4,331	4,670	...	9	1,987	10,352	12,095	1,90,161	...	2,931	50,032	16,185	452	338	1,13,516	5,377	1,330
1906-07 ...																	
1907-08 ...																	
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	
1914-15 ...																	

* Formerly net receipts only were shown. From this year receipts and also expenditure are given.

† From this year the gross receipts from ferries were for the first time credited to the District Board.

TABLE XVI.—*Distribution of Police*, 1906.

Thana.	Sub-Inspectors.	Head Constables.	Constables.	Municipal Police.	Town Police.	Rural Police.	Road Police.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Domariaganj ...	3	1	12	...	...	208	2
Chhapia ...	1	1	6	...	...	116	...
Intwa ...	1	1	6	...	...	88	...
Dhebarua ...	1	1	6	...	...	63	...
Tilakpur ...	1	1	6	...	6	109	...
Bansi ...	2	1	12	...	...	155	2
Chilia ...	3	1	12	...	...	211	2
Uska ...	1	1	9	...	12	111	2
Bankata ...	1	1	6	...	...	105	...
Lotan ...	1	1	6	...	...	80	...
Haraiya ...	1	1	9	...	5	95	4
Chhaoni ...	3	1	12	...	...	137	8
Captainganj ...	1	1	6	...	...	116	2
Paikaulia ...	1	1	6	...	...	116	...
Parasrampur ...	1	1	6	...	...	109	...
Basti ...	3	1	17	...	24	241	12
Kalwari ...	1	1	6	...	...	122	4
Sonhan ...	1	1	6	...	...	112	2
Rudhauli ...	1	1	6	...	...	120	4
Dudhara ...	1	1	6	...	...	125	2
Budhabandh ...	1	1	6	...	...	84	2
Khalilabad ...	2	1	12	...	...	124	6
Mahuli ...	1	1	6	...	...	104	...
Mehndawal ...	3	1	12	...	9	125	4
Barakoni ...	1	1	6	...	...	79	...
Dhanghata ...	1	1	6	...	...	106	...
Civil Reserve ...	3	14	72	...	...	...	...
Armed Police ...	1	15	97	...	...	...	...
Total ...	42	55	378	...	56	3,161	58

List of Schools, 1906.

I.—SECONDARY.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Basti...	Basti East ...	Basti ...	High School, aided	129
		Do. ...	Middle Vernacular	167
	Maghar West ...	Rudhauli ...	Ditto ...	105
Domariaganj.	Rasulpur ...	Halaur ...	Ditto ...	120
Bansi...	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Ditto ...	139
		Do. ...	Private, Middle...	40
		Uska ...	Middle Vernacular	99
Haraiya	Amorha ...	Haraiya ...	Ditto ...	104
Khalilabad.	Maghar East ...	Mehndawal ...	Ditto ...	130
	Mahuli East ...	Hariharpur ...	Ditto ...	138
		II.—PRIMARY.		
Domariaganj.	Rasulpur ...	Wasah ...	Upper Primary...	40
		Keotali ...	Ditto ...	67
		Chaukhara ...	Ditto ...	90
		Narkhoria ...	Ditto ...	88
		Bhanpur ...	Ditto ...	87
		Bhatgawan ...	Ditto ...	47
		Shahpur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Tighra-ghat ...	Ditto ...	55
		Domariaganj ...	Lower Primary...	30
		Lohrauli ...	Ditto ...	41
		Kundi ...	Ditto ...	30
		Bharautia ...	Ditto ...	43
		Gadawar ...	Ditto ...	38
		Dhangarhwa ...	Ditto ...	38
		Tarauthi ...	Ditto ...	31
		Jogia ...	Ditto ...	34
		Karmahia ...	Ditto ...	57
		Bargadua ...	Ditto ...	36
		Chhitahi ...	Ditto ...	46
		Belwa Dariao Bakhsh.	Ditto ...	36
		Bhanpur ...	Upper Primary Aided	33
		Tilgaria Khurd...	Ditto ...	24
		Dhanahri ...	Ditto ...	42
		Ajgara ...	Ditto ...	34
		Pipra ...	Ditto ...	32
		Birpur ...	Ditto ...	51
		Peda ...	Lower Primary Aided	18
		Sikta ...	Ditto ...	37
		Kaithaulia ...	Ditto ...	30
		Piraila ...	Ditto ...	31
		Karahia Sanghan	Ditto ...	34
		Basdila ...	Ditto ...	26
		Kohnda ...	Ditto ...	37
		Khargaula ...	Ditto ...	25
		Jamwatia ...	Ditto ...	30
		Gaura Bazar ...	Ditto ...	39

List of Schools, 1906—(continued).

II.—PRIMARY—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Domariaganj—(*concluded.*)	Rasulpur—(*concluded*).	Gadawar ...	Lower Primary Aided	29
		Bargadua ...	Ditto ...	22
		Dhaurahra ...	Ditto ...	29
		Bhandaria ...	Ditto ...	41
		Bitharia ...	Ditto ...	30
		Baidaula ...	Ditto ...	32
		Unchdih ...	Ditto ...	18
		Naodih ...	Ditto ...	25
		Kathautia Kishan	Ditto ...	25
		Majhari ...	Ditto ...	23
		Jabjawa ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	17
		Deipar ...	Ditto ...	14
		Bhanpur ...	Ditto ...	18
	Bansi West ...	Biskohar ...	Upper Primary...	84
		Kamsar ...	Ditto ...	45
		Khuniaon ...	Ditto ...	26
		Agya ...	Lower Primary...	40
		Semri Kapia ...	Ditto ...	27
		Dhekahri ...	Ditto ...	34
		Aundahi ...	Ditto ...	21
		Dhebarua ...	Ditto ...	13
		Nagchauri ...	Ditto ...	16
		Intwa ...	Lower Primary... Aided	26
		Mahdani ...	Ditto ...	18
		Malhwar Buzurg	Ditto ...	19
		Budhi ...	Ditto ...	25
		Patila ...	Ditto ...	28
		Semri Khankot ...	Ditto ...	26
Bansi...	Bansi East ...	Chhitia ...	Upper Primary...	96
		Dharamsinghwa	Ditto ...	73
		Kalnakhor ...	Ditto ...	68
		Tikur ...	Ditto ...	78
		Tandia ...	Ditto ...	53
		Deora ...	Ditto ...	63
		Naugarh ...	Ditto ...	114
		Sikhui ...	Ditto ...	115
		Chandapar ...	Ditto ...	75
		Jiwa ...	Lower Primary ...	42
		Sawadand ...	Ditto ...	40
		Rudhauli Qazi ...	Ditto ...	34
		Gulraha ...	Ditto ...	43
		Kurja ...	Ditto ...	38
		Mahulani ...	Ditto ...	46
		Belwa Mahadewa	Ditto ...	46
		Jamuni Mahadewa	Ditto ...	38
		Kundra Grant ...	Ditto ...	29
		Alidapur ...	Ditto ...	37
		Dafra ...	Ditto ...	32

List of Schools, 1906—(continued).

II.—PRIMARY—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Bansi—(*concluded*).	Bansi East—(*concluded*).	Antri Bazar ...	Lower Primary...	39
		Baur Bias ...	Ditto ...	33
		Khutahnan ...	Ditto ...	30
		Rithia ...	Upper Primary Aided.	45
		Chhitra ...	Ditto ...	30
		Chilia ...	Ditto ...	24
		Bhelaungi Buzurg	Ditto ...	19
		Bamaua Buzurg...	Ditto ...	31
		Basantpur ...	Lower Primary Aided.	69
		Jamlajot ...	Ditto ...	23
		Chitrapar ...	Ditto ...	24
		Mithaul ...	Ditto ...	29
		Kharchaula ...	Ditto ...	24
		Tilauli ...	Ditto ...	30
		Majhwan ...	Ditto ...	36
		Karhi ...	Ditto ...	25
		Ranajot ...	Ditto ...	34
		Gauhan ...	Ditto ...	37
		Pipri Bazar ...	Ditto ...	28
		Madhyanagar ...	Ditto ...	23
		Chhitauni Tiwari	Ditto ...	30
		Karma ...	Ditto ...	28
		Ahrauli Lala ...	Ditto ...	14
		Karaunti ...	Ditto ...	35
		Ditto ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	20
		Bansi ...	Ditto ...	15
		Partabpur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Rithaina ...	Ditto ...	17
	Binayakpur ...	Netwar ...	Upper Primary...	67
		Ramwanpur ...	Lower Primary ...	30
		Semri ...	Lower Primary Aided	32
		Sikri Bakharia ...	Ditto ...	34
Haraiya	Amorha ...	Chhaoni ...	Upper Primary...	63
		Amari ...	Ditto ...	83
		Baghanara ...	Ditto ...	67
		Sikandarpur ...	Ditto ...	78
		Chauri ...	Ditto ...	83
		Dubaulia ...	Ditto ...	91
		Lachhmanpur ...	Ditto ...	86
		Charkhari ...	Lower Primary...	35
		Bhadawal ...	Ditto ...	40
		Khamaria ...	Ditto ...	25
		Belbharia ...	Ditto ...	53
		Bikramjot ...	Ditto ...	42
		Sarnamganj ...	Ditto ...	54
		Parasrampur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Jitipur ...	Ditto ...	28

List of Schools, 1906—(continued).

II.—PRIMARY—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Haraiya—(concluded).	Amorha—(concluded).	Banjaria ...	Upper Primary Aided.	90
		Pauli ...	Lower Primary Aided.	20
		Gokula ...	Ditto ...	25
		Dholwapur ...	Ditto ...	25
		Kukraha ...	Ditto ...	28
		Harewa Shukul...	Ditto ...	23
		Bhadaria ...	Ditto ...	20
		Rajwapur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Padri Lala ...	Ditto ...	26
		Malauli ...	Ditto ...	28
		Itwa ...	Ditto ...	15
		Do. ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	14
		Khamaria ...	Ditto ...	21
		Sikandarpur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Dubaulia ...	Ditto ...	16
		Thana ...	Ditto ...	14
	Basti West ...	Hardi ...	Lower Primary ...	37
		Bharauli Shukul	Ditto ...	51
		Atroh ...	Ditto ...	44
		M hua Dabar ...	Ditto ...	38
		Garha ...	Ditto ...	35
		Kurdah ...	Upper Primary Aided.	43
		Tendwa ...	Lower Primary Aided.	27
		Musaha ...	Ditto ...	36
		Mansurnagar ...	Ditto ...	21
		Abhaipura ...	Ditto ...	29
	Nagar West ...	Ganeshpur ...	Upper Primary...	82
		Kakua ...	Ditto ...	97
		Uji ...	Lower Primary ...	49
		Bhataha ...	Ditto ...	55
		Badosar ...	Ditto ...	45
		Captainganj ...	Ditto ...	40
		Labdaha ...	Upper Primary Aided.	25
		Bimahri ...	Ditto ...	30
		Rajauli ...	Lower Primary Aided.	24
		Kutakwarpur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Biswapar ...	Ditto ...	27
		Rasoia ...	Ditto ...	29
		Newada ...	Ditto ...	26
		Pokhra ...	Ditto ...	40
Basti...	Basti East ...	Basti, branch ...	Upper Primary...	75
		Ditto ...	Lower Primary, girls'.	11

List of Schools, 1906—(continued).

II.—PRIMARY—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Basti—(*continued*).	Basti East—(*concluded*).	Basti, Model School	Lower Primary, girls'.	18
		Saltawa ...	Upper Primary...	81
		Bharauli Babu ...	Lower Primary ...	27
		Sihari ...	Ditto ...	39
		Urwara ...	Ditto ...	23
		Dilia ...	Ditto ...	33
		Damaya ...	Ditto ...	33
		Majhawa Lala ...	Ditto ...	33
		Muniaon ...	Upper Primary Aided.	30
		Rengi ...	Ditto ...	26
		Puris ...	Lower Primary Aided.	26
		Kothila ...	Ditto ...	26
		Parsa Jafar ...	Ditto ...	24
		Parsa Langra ...	Ditto ...	39
		Pakri Jai ...	Ditto ...	32
		Mankaura ...	Ditto ...	35
		Lapsi ...	Ditto ...	28
		Bhiria ...	Ditto ...	24
		Sambhalpur ...	Ditto ...	23
	Maghar West ...	Hanumanganj ...	Lower Primary ...	44
		Ghosiari ...	Ditto ...	36
		Surwar Kalan ...	Ditto ...	88
		Hanumanganj ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	16
	Nagar East ...	Nagar ...	Upper Primary...	59
		Pipra Gautam ...	Ditto ...	48
		Kaithaulia ...	Ditto ..	50
		Bahadurpur ...	Ditto ..	74
		Ditto ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	10
		Kalwari ...	Lower Primary...	20
		Marwatia ...	Lower Primary Aided.	27
		Saunsarpur ...	Ditto ...	34
		Saraya Buzurg ...	Ditto ...	12
		Ghauspur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Kachhwari ...	Ditto ...	40
		Chakdaha ...	Ditto ...	12
	Mahuli West ...	Mahson ...	Upper Primary...	73
		Lalganj ...	Ditto ...	84
		Gaighat ...	Ditto ...	81
		Khoria ...	Lower Primary...	42
		Bankati ...	Ditto ...	37
		Berari ...	Ditto ...	33
		Halwapar ...	Upper Primary Aided.	29
		Baidukhor ...	Ditto ...	21

List of Schools, 1906—(continued).

II.—Primary—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Basti—(*concluded*).	Mahuli West—(*concluded*).	Budwal ...	Upper Primary Aided.	33
		Gudi ...	Ditto ...	20
		Ekdangi ...	Ditto ...	41
		Reoli ...	Lower Primary Aided.	25
		Tandijot ...	Ditto ...	29
		Kundwa ...	Ditto ...	30
		Mahnauna ...	Ditto ...	27
		Bhagwanpur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Sikra ...	Ditto ...	26
		Parsain ...	Ditto ...	46
		Banpur ...	Ditto ...	35
		Mahson ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	8
Khalilabad.	Maghar East ...	Maghar ...	Upper Primary...	94
		Khalilabad ...	Ditto ...	70
		Utrawal ...	Ditto ...	60
		Deoria ...	Ditto ...	47
		Bakhira ...	Ditto ...	85
		Belhar Kalan ...	Ditto ...	55
		Bahilpar ...	Lower Primary...	39
		Sihtikar ...	Ditto ...	40
		Mirganj ...	Ditto ...	48
		Patkhauli ...	Ditto ...	35
		Belhar Budhi ...	Ditto ...	39
		Jawar ...	Ditto ...	49
		Satha ...	Ditto ...	37
		Pachpokhri ...	Upper Primary Aided.	34
		Tama ...	Ditto ...	31
		Rawatpur ...	Ditto ...	24
		Baghauli ...	Ditto ...	43
		Padaria ...	Lower Primary Aided.	24
		Chandhar ...	Ditto ...	32
		Sukrauli ...	Ditto ...	30
		Karma ...	Ditto ...	30
		Nandaur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Salehpur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Unchehra ...	Ditto ...	19
		Razapur ...	Ditto ...	24
		Budhabandh ...	Ditto ...	47
		Parsa ...	Ditto ...	37
		Kusauna ...	Ditto ...	19
		Rasulpur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Sisai Muafi ...	Ditto ...	17
		Majhawa ...	Ditto ...	52
		Koelsa ...	Ditto ...	30
		Ghurapali ...	Ditto ...	20
		Maghar ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	16

List of Schools, 1906—(concluded).

II.—PRIMARY—(*concluded*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class.	Average attendance.
Khalilabad—(*concluded*).	Mahuli East ...	Hainsar ...	Upper Primary...	101
		Pauli ...	Ditto ...	83
		Babhnauli ...	Ditto ...	32
		Mahuli ...	Lower Primary...	57
		Nathnagar ...	Ditto ...	35
		Karri ...	Ditto ...	42
		Tiltha ...	Ditto ...	33
		Sanichra ...	Ditto ...	51
		Sirsi ...	Ditto ...	48
		Bargaon ...	Ditto ...	32
		Sarahra ...	Upper Primary Aided.	40
		Marwatia ...	Ditto ...	42
		Auradand ...	Ditto ...	30
		Khanju ...	Lower Primary Aided.	22
		Baraon ...	Ditto ...	27
		Kolhua ...	Ditto ...	43
		Nahardih ...	Ditto ...	38
		Mukhlispur ...	Ditto ...	31
		Majhaura ...	Ditto ...	33
		Madhopur ...	Ditto ...	27
		Dhanghata ...	Ditto ...	34
		Kishanpur ...	Ditto ...	40
		Chhapra ...	Ditto ...	20
		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	29
		Debri ...	Ditto ...	30
		Kali ...	Ditto ...	36
		Sankhi ...	Ditto ...	33
		Kudwat ...	Ditto ...	36
		Gobindjot ...	Ditto ...	19
		Gaighat ...	Ditto ...	35
		Tariapar ...	Ditto ...	53
		Kanchanpur ...	Ditto ...	26
		Mulnapur ...	Ditto ...	29
		Hainsar ...	Lower Primary Aided, girls'.	19
		Sawapar ...	Ditto ...	17
		Jagdispur ...	Ditto ...	17

ROADS, 1906.

	Miles.	fur.
A.—Provincial.		
(i) Fyzabad, Basti and Gorakhpur trunk road	62	1
Total ...	62	1
B.—Local.		
I.—First class roads, metalled, bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Basti to B nsi	31	0
(ii) Uska to Birdpur	14	4
(iii) Basti station roads	5	4
Total ...	51	0
II.A.—Second class roads, unmetalled, bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Basti to Domariaganj, Intwa and Nepal frontier ...	46	6
(ii) Basti to Kalwari and Tanda ferry	14	0
(iii) Basti to Mehndawal	25	0
(iv) Khalilabad to Mehndawal	15	0
(v) Khalilabad to Dhanghata and Chhapra	20	0
(vi) Domariaganj to Singarjot	9	0
(vii) Domariaganj to Bitharia	5	0
(viii) Bithuaria to Chandardip ferry	5	4
(ix) Uska to Sohas	5	3
(x) Birdpur to Nepal frontier	7	4
Total ...	153	1
II.B.—Second class roads, unmetalled, partially bridged and drained.		
(i) Basti to Lalganj	14	0
(ii) Bansi to Domariaganj	18	0
(iii) Bansi to Bakhira	20	0
(iv) Sohas to Neora and Sadda-ghat	9	4
(v) Birdpur to Neora and Mohana-ghat	4	0
Total ...	65	4
III.—Third class roads, unmetalled, banked and surfaced.		
(i) Birdpur to Alidapur, Chilia, Misraulia and Intwa ...	28	0
(ii) Alidapur to Nepal frontier	8	0
(iii) Sadda-ghat to Nepal frontier	4	4
(iv) Lotan to Nepal frontier	7	0
(v) Lotan to Mohana-ghat	8	4
(vi) Bitharia to Mankaura	10	4
(vii) Captainganj to Tinich	10	0
(viii) Basti to Sonupar	5	0
Total ...	81	4

ROADS, 1906—*(concluded)*.

IV.—Fourth class roads, unmetalled, banked but not surfaced.	Miles.	fur.
(i) Banswari to Gaighat, Kalwari and Chhaoni	60	0
(ii) Gaighat to Lalganj and Munderwa	20	0
(iii) Dubauli to Sarwa ferry	2	4
(iv) Bikramjot to Paikaulia and Bhanpur	30	0
(v) Bhanpur to Rudhauli and Nandaur	26	0
(vi) Bakhira to Gorakhpur	4	3
(vii) Bakhira to Mehndawal	4	0
(viii) Bansi to Biskohar	30	5
(ix) Domariaganj to Biskohar (*vide* IIA—vi)	7	0
(x) Lotan to Sohas, Damdamwa and Kakrahi	20	0
(xi) Damdamwa to Chilia, Dhebarua and Dhekahri	36	0
(xii) Dhebarua to Misraulia	10	0
(xiii) Jharwa Bazar to Nepal frontier	3	0
(xiv) Basti to Sahibganj	6	0
Total ...	259	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	672	6

FERRIES, 1906.

River.	Ferry.	Village.	Pargana.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
Rapti.	Materia-ghat ...	Singarjot ...	Rasulpur ...	Domariaganj	District Board, Gonda.	1,120
	Gopia-ghat ...	Gopia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Private ...	547
	Asnahra ...	Asnahra Muafi	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	547
	Birpur ...	Birpurjot ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	547
	Bitharia ...	Bitharia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Pendari ...	Pendari ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	250
	Domariaganj ...	Domariaganj ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Bagahwa ...	Bagahwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	250
	Rajpur ...	Rajpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	172
	Gaura ...	Gaura Bachhaoti.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	350
	Baghari ...	Baghari ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	250
	Bagahi ...	Bagahi ...	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Do. ...	75
	Dandwa ...	Dandwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	215
	Gothwa ...	Gothwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Haraiya ...	Haraiya ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Bansi ...	Bansi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	2,000
	Gulraha ...	Gulraha Raja ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	35
	Bhanwari ...	Bhanwari ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	70
	Materia-ghat ...	Materia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	125
	Hata ...	Hata ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	25
	Sangaldip ...	Sangaldip ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	110
	Birwa ...	Birwa Muafi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Gaighat ...	Gaighat ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Sainduria ...	Ajgara ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	200
	Hatwa ...	Hatwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	150
	Bhui Tal ...	Bhui Tal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	85
	Panghata ...	Panghata Muafi	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	180
	Bharwa ...	Bharwa ...	Maghar East	Khalilabad ...	Do. ...	...
Burhi Rapti.	Parsohan ...	Parsohan ...	Bansi West ...	Domariaganj	Do. ...	340
	Budhi ...	Budhi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	} 45
	Bhiura ...	Bhiura ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	}
	Kathela ...	Kathela Sharqi	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	45
	Aunrahwa ...	Aunrahwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	} 200
	Sanauli ...	Sanauli Nankar	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	}
	Bhurelapur ...	Bhurelapur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	60
	Mahartha ...	Mahartha ...	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Do. ...	50
	Tiwari ...	Sirsia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	77
	Santwa ...	Santwa Dihi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
Banganga.	Antri ...	Antri ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	19
	Jamaria ...	Jamaria ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Kaur Jahwa ...	Sihorwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	12
	Koili-ghat ...	Koili-ghat ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Kakrahi-ghat ...	Kakrahi-ghat ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	450
	Gondha ...	Gondha ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	35
	Supa-ghat ...	Supa Raja ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	5
	Tandwal ...	Marwatia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
Parasi	Madhonian ...	Madhonian ...	Bansi West ...	Domariaganj	Do. ...	80

FERRIES—*(continued)*.

River.	Ferry.	Village.	Pargana.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
Parasi—(concld.).	Tirmohani-ghat	Khaira ...	Bansi Wset...	Domariaganj	Private ...	80
	Ajgara ...	Ajgara ...	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Do. ...	50
	Kakrahwa ...	Kakrahwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	225
	Barhar-ghat ...	Barhar-ghat ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	51
	Bhaluwa ...	Bhaluwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	77
	Kamharia ...	Kamharia Buzurg.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	45
Sikri.	Bishun-ghat ...	Bishunpur Chaube.	Bansi West...	Domariaganj	Do. ...	15
	Pakri ...	Pakri ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Sorahwa ...	Sorahwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Chaltuwa ...	Kathela Janubi	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	5
	Gaur Dih ...	Gaur Dih grant	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
Jamuwar.	Masharwa ...	Masharwa ...	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Do. ...	17
	Pairia ...	Alidapur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Gaighat ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	6
	Hathwa ...	Birdpur XIV ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	7
	Naugarh ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Do, ...	Do. ...	...
	Pathni ...	Pathni Buzurg	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	150
	Kand Jahwa ...	Kand Jahwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
	Karchhulia ...	Karchhulia grant.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	200
Tilar.	Kakrahwa ...	Dulha grant ...	Binayakpur	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Sadda-ghat ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	200
Kunhra.	Bardihwa ...	Bardihwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Kakrahwa ...	Khairanti ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Semri ...	Mahthawal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Dafalipur ...	Dafalipur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	6
	Mohana-ghat...	Madhobani ...	Bansi East ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	350
	Lakra ...	Ruhudila ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	5
	Madrahnan ...	Madrahnan ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Bharuhia ...	Kawalpur Khalsa.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Sohas ...	Sohas ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	250
	Amilia ...	Kataha grant...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	25
	Gangadharpur	Gangadharpur	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
Ghunghi.	Saphi ...	Sathwa ...	Binayakpur	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Bijdeia ...	Bijdeia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	3
	Lotan Bazar ...	Lotan ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
	Deorwa ...	Deorwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Mahua-ghat ...	Marhara ...	Bansi East ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Kataha ...	Kataha grant...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
Bilar.	Jogia ...	Jogia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
	Sikahula ...	Sikahula ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Mukala-ghat ...	Rampurwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Chaurbir ...	Chaurbir ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	5
	Siarapar ...	Siarapar ..	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Jhhinki ...	Chhitrapar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	100

FERRIES—*(continued).*

River.	Ferry.	Village.	Pargana.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
Bilar—(*concluded*).	Khajurdand ...	Mahadewa Buzurg.	Bansi East ...	Bansi ...	Private ...	150
	Mahwaria ...	Mahwaria ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Hathiur Tal ...	Hathiur Tal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Chauba ...	Ajgara ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Naukhanian ...	Naukhainan ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
Ami.	Gauhanian ...	Ganhanian ...	Maghar West	Basti ...	Do. ...	100
	Deoria ...	Gona Khor ...	Maghar East	Khalilabad ...	Do. ...	30
	Gulrahwa ...	Bhadaura Pikaura.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	4
	Gajhara ...	Gajhara ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Balusasan ...	Balusasan ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	District Board.	1,100
	Utrawal ...	Utrawal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Private ...	25
	Ajgaya ...	Un Jangal ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
	Patan ...	Maghar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
Barar.	Sairahwa ...	Gopalpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	4
Katnehia.	Nipanian ...	Nipanian ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	2
	Rupana ...	Changera Mangera.	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	4
	Asnahra ...	Asnahra ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	2
	Joga Raja ...	Batasi ...	Mahuli East	Do. ...	Do. ...	12
	Hardi ...	Hardi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	12
	Rajghat ...	Hariharpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	25
	Alinagar ...	Alinagar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
Nala Kuian.	Dubia ...	Patkhauli ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	24
	Jamua ...	Bhainsa Khunt	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
Kuwana.	Gulrahwa ...	Sirsia ...	Rasulpur ...	Domariaganj	Do. ...	10
	Saunpura ...	Dharampur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Chandradip-ghat.	Baital ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	75
	Majhwa-ghat ...	Jangalipur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	28
	Karanghunt ...	Karanghunt ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
	Irwa-ghat ...	Khwajapur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	15
	Andwa-ghat ...	Andwa-ghat ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	25
	Dubahwa ...	Dariapur Jangal	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	10
	Palak-ghat ...	Tendua Asnahri	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Damdama ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
	Dhubaha ...	Turkaulia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Pagar-ghat ...	Narkatha ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
	Mansurnagar ...	Mansurnagar ...	Basti West ...	Haraiya ...	Do. ...	...
	Siuwa ...	Siuwa ...	Basti East ...	Basti ...	Do. ...	35
	Sidhauni ...	Sidhauni ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	8
	Satdhar ...	Dhurika ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	2
	Mutha ...	Neorigarh Kasrawat.	Nagar East ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	4
	Deoraon ...	Deoraon ...	Basti East ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	12
	Mahalwara ...	Mahalwara ...	Nagar East ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	12

FERRIES—(*concluded*).

River.	Ferry.	Village.	Pargana	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
Kuwana—(*concluded*).	Dela ...	Pipra ...	Nagar East...	Basti ...	Private ...	14
	Gaunar ...	Bargaun ...	Mahuli West	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Lalganj Bazar	Lalganj ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	250
	Thokwa ...	Thokwa ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	40
	Banpur ...	Banpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	150
	Pachahra ...	Pachahra ...	Mahuli East	Khalilabad ...	Do. ...	25
	Chaura ...	Chaura Kalan...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Muradiha ...	Baridiha ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	30
	Kankarha ...	Kankarha ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Mukhlispur ...	Mukhlispur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	300
	Amadei ...	Rampur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	20
	Kathar-ghat ...	Kathar Misra...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	32
	Barparwa ...	Reota ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Sankhi ...	Sirsi ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	60
	Gauriya-ghat...	Gauriya-ghat...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	32
	Belahra ...	Belahra ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	200
	Bankata ...	Bankata ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	60
	Bharatpur ...	Bharatpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	32
	Sheopur ...	Machauli ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	60
	Dhakwa ...	Samogar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	50
	Sikri-ghat ...	Baswarigaon ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	200
Bisuhi.	Belwaria ...	Belwaria ...	Basti West...	Haraiya ...	Do. ...	20
Manwar.	Pendha ...	Pendha ...	Nagar West	Do. ...	Do. ...	125
	Kaithaulia ...	Kaithaulia ...	Nagar East...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Singhari ...	Semra ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Bahadurpur ...	Bahadurpur ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Kachaura ...	Kachaura ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Barghara ...	Barghara ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Sumaria ...	Sumaria ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Khagwari ...	Khagwari ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Gunar ...	Gunar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
	Gaura ...	Akla Kuberpur	Do ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	...
Ghagra.	Bilhar-ghat ...	Bharthapur ...	Amorha ...	Do. ...	District Board, Basti.	405
	Marna ...	Gokula ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	125
	Dalpatpur ...	Pure Palai ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	535
	Begamganj ...	Pithia Lashkari	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	325
	Sarwa ...	Subikha Babu	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	935
	Salona ...	Dasrathpur ...	Nagar West	Do. ...	Do. ...	950
	Mahripur ...	Manjha Khurd	Nagar East...	Basti ...	Do. ...	1,910
	Tanda ...	Manjha Kalan	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	1,910
	Mubarakpur ...	Charkaila ...	Mahuli West	Do. ...	Do. ...	480
	Phulpur ...	Berari ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	325
	Naurahni ...	Tigraha ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	1,250
	Maindi ...	Padaria ...	Mahuli East	Khalilabad ...	Do. ...	910
	Chahora ...	Hadia ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	3,410
	Mansurganj ...	Chhapra ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	3,410
	Chandipur ...	Bhauapar ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	District Board, Fyzabad.	480

POST-OFFICES, 1906.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Name of Office.	Class.	Management.
Basti.	Basti East ...	Basti	Head office.	Imperial.
		Basti city	Sub-office.	Ditto.
		Pakka Bazar ...	Branch office.	Ditto.
		Kothila	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Maghar West...	Rudhauli	Sub-office.	Ditto.
	Nagar East ...	Kalwari	Branch office.	Ditto.
	Mahuli West...	Gaighat	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Mahson	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Munderwa	Ditto.	District.
		Barakoni	Ditto.	Imperial.
Domariaganj.	Rasulpur ...	Domariaganj ...	Sub-office.	Ditto.
		Chhapia	Branch office.	Ditto.
		Bharautia	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Bansi West ...	Biskohar	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Intwa	Ditto.	District.
		Dhebarua	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Misraulia	Ditto.	Ditto.
Bansi.	Bansi East ...	Bansi	Sub-office.	Imperial.
		Naugarh	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Birdpur ...	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Uska	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Chilia	Branch office.	Ditto.
		Shohratganj ...	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Daldala	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Binayakpur ...	Lotan	Ditto.	Ditto.
Haraiya.	Amorha ...	Haraiya	Sub-office.	Ditto.
		Parasrampur ...	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Amorha	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Belwa	Branch office.	Ditto.
		Dubaulia	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Basti West ...	Tinich	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Paikaulia	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Babhnan	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Nagar West ...	Captainganj ...	Sub-office.	Ditto.
Khalilabad.	Maghar East ...	Khalilabad	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Mehndawal	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Dudhara	Branch office.	Ditto.
		Bakhira	Ditto.	Ditto.
		Maghar	Ditto.	Ditto.
	Mahuli East ...	Mahuli	Sub-office.	Ditto.
		Chhapra-ghat ...	Branch office.	District.
		Hariharpur ...	Ditto.	Imperial.

MARKETS, 1906.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Tappa.	Village.	Market days.
Domariaganj.	Rasulpur.	Karhi ...	Patkhauli ...	Sunday.
		Do. ...	Gaura ...	Friday.
		Do. ...	Latera ...	Wednesday.
		Awainia ...	Chhitahi ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Bharautia ...	Sunday.
		Chhapia ...	Bantikra ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Halaur ...	Rasulpur ...	Monday.
		Sagara ...	Amaridiha ...	Tuesday.
		Do. ...	Kohnda ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Chaukonian ...	Saturday.
	Bansi West.	Budhi ...	Biskohar ...	Daily.
		Kot ...	Khandsari ...	Thursday.
Bansi.	Bansi East.	Kodaran ...	Bansi ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Do. ...	Rithia ...	Friday.
		Aikhin ...	Chilia ...	Ditto.
		Chaur ...	Narkatha (Lalganj)	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Gondha Tal ...	Monday.
		Kondri ...	Chhitia ...	Ditto.
		Asnar ...	Mithaul ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Tilauli ...	Sunday.
		Banjaraha ...	Ledwa ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Karahia ...	Wednesday.
		Chhatisi ...	Marwatia ...	Ditto.
		Naksauli ...	Chitrapar ...	Ditto.
		Sohas ...	Sohas ...	Ditto.
		Pachahr ...	Tateri ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Pachahr (Maharajganj).	Sunday.
		Patna ...	Dharamsinghwa ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Rajediha ...	Saturday.
		Patharhat ...	Patharhat (Mirganj)	Ditto.
		Dabra ...	Bamhni ...	Ditto.
		Sirwant ...	Pipri ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Khurhuria ...	Tuesday.
		Do. ...	Para ...	Thursday.
		Bargadua ...	Mahadewa Buzurg	Ditto.
		Masna ...	Pathra ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Kotia ...	Tuesday.
		Do. ...	Mankaura ...	Wednesday.
		Nagwa ...	Parti ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Rehra ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Untapar ...	Uska ...	Thursday and Friday.
		Hata ...	Supa Raja ...	Friday.
		Do. ...	Tandia ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Ghaghta Muafi ...	Monday.
		Nandapar ...	Udaipur. ...	Ditto.
		Tharauli ...	Gobrahwa ...	Tuesday.
		Barhon ...	Antri ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Chandapar ...	Monday.
		Ghaus ...	Palta Debi (Sheonagar).	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Madhobani (Mahuaganj).	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Birdpur II (Tarkul)	Sunday.
		Do. ...	Bajha ...	Saturday.

MARKETS, 1906—*(continued)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Tappa.	Village.	Market days.
Bansi—*(concld.)*.	Bansi East—*(concluded)*.	Ghans ...	Birdpur IX (Malman).	Saturday.
		Do. ...	Birdpur XIV (Naugarh).	Friday.
	Binayakpur.	Bhatinpar ...	Kakrahwa ...	Ditto.
		Netwar ...	Lotan ...	Saturday.
		Do. ...	Ramwanpur ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Nepni ...	Sunday.
Haraiya.	Amorha	Puraina ...	Haraiya ...	Monday and Friday.
		Do. ...	Rajghat ...	Thursday.
		Do. ...	Keshraj pur ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Bhadawal ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Do. ...	Sarnamganj ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Do. ...	Belbharia ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Belwa ...	Bikramjot ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Chhaoni ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Ramgarh ...	Amorha ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Amari ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Dubaulia ...	Pakri (Bisheswarganj).	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Dubaulia ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Sikandarpur	Rajwapur ...	Ditto.
		Ditto ...	Chauri ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Ditto ...	Haidarabad ...	Tuesday.
	Basti West.	Atroh ...	Marwatia ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Hardi ...	Hardi ...	Tuesday.
		Sheopur ...	Belghat ...	Monday and Friday.
		Do. ...	Bechi-ghat ...	Ditto
		Do. ...	Mansurnagar ...	Sunday and Thursday
		Do. ...	Balesar ...	Sunday.
		Do. ...	Gaur ...	Saturday.
		Do. ...	Khajua ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Chitra ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Nagar West.	Nawai ...	Kakua (Ujhaganj)	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Pokhra ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Do. ...	Bihra ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Uji ...	Chilman ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Semra ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Manwarpara	Bharukahwa ...	Ditto.
		Ditto ...	Gotwa ...	Monday and Friday.
		Ganeshpur ...	Ganeshpur ...	Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday.
Basti.	Basti East.	Haveli ...	Basti ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Do. ...	Babhangaon ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Urwara ...	Monday and Friday.
		Umra ...	Bishunpura ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Gandhariaganj ...	Thursday.
		Pandia ...	Pipra ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Majhawa Mir ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Sikandarpur	Karimnagar ...	Ditto.
		Ditto ...	Saltawa ...	Monday and Friday.
		Ditto ...	Roshanpur ...	Ditto.

MARKETS, 1906—*(continued)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Tappa.	Village.	Market days.
Basti.	Basti East—*(concld.)*.	Kothila ...	Banarahi ...	Monday and Friday.
		Do. ...	Kothila ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Maghar West.	Rudhauli ...	Hanumanganj ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Rudhauli ...	Sunday.
		Do. ...	Bakainia ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Mahawan ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Pachari Kalan ...	Thursday.
		Banskhor ...	Dandwa Khurd ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Hatwa ...	Monday.
		Ghosiari ...	Ghosiari ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Gara Pokhar ...	Wednesday.
	Nagar East.	Haveli ...	Nagar ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Pipra ...	Pipra ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Pilai ...	Bahadurpur ...	Monday and Friday.
		Kalwari ...	Kusaura ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Do. ...	Kalwari ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Do. ...	Baili ...	Ditto.
	Mahuli West.	Kabra ...	Banpur ...	Ditto.
		Koraon ...	Budwal ...	Ditto.
		Sheobakhri...	Usaha ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Gobindganj ...	Monday and Friday.
		Kapri Mahson	Mahson Khas ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Mahson Jot ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Dehi ...	Khoria ...	Monday.
		Mahtauli ...	Bankati ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Kudarha ...	Kudarha ...	Ditto.
		Bargaon Pagar.	Sarai-ghat (Lalganj)	Wednesday and Saturday.
Khalilabad.	Maghar East.	Ujiar ...	Baghnagar ...	Monday.
		Do. ...	Kusumbha ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Bardand ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Khatiawan ...	Wednesday.
		Do. ...	Tilja ...	Saturday.
		Do. ...	Usra Shahid ...	Sunday.
		Do. ...	Bigramir ...	Tuesday.
		Do. ...	Bhatwa ...	Do.
		Un ...	Gulariha ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Dasra ...	Friday.
		Belhar ...	Sia Katari ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Sarwan ...	Sunday.
		Haveli South	Khalilabad ...	Saturday.
		Ditto ...	Do., Ragarganj	Monday and Thursday.
		Maghar ...	Maghar ...	Wednesday.
		Churaib ...	Mirganj ...	Do.
		Bakhira ...	Sihtikar ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Nandaur ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Bakhira ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Phulethu ...	Pachpokhri ...	Ditto.
		Do. ...	Basanta ...	Sunday.
		Mehndawal...	Mehndawal ...	Thursday.

MARKETS, 1906—*(concluded)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Tappa.	Village.	Market days.
Khalilabad—*(concluded)*.	Mahuli East.	Buzurgwar...	Sanichra ...	Thursday.
		Taraf Belghatia.	Padia ...	Wednesday.
		Simri ...	Siar	Do.
		Satahra ...	Kali	Saturday.
		Karsand ...	Mulnapur ...	Monday.
		Kuchri ...	Chhapra ...	Do.
		Do. ...	Hainsar ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Do. ...	Banda ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Do. ...	Umaria ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Auradand ...	Hariharpur ...	Ditto.
		Bankat ...	Mahuli ...	Thursday and Saturday.
		Tariapur ...	Mukhlispur ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Muradpur ...	Parmeswarpur ...	Wednesday and Friday.

FAIRS, 1906.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Name of fair.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Domariaganj.	Rasulpur	Kasheswarnath	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Badi 13th.	5,000
		Bharat Bhari...	Ashnan ...	Kartik Sudi 15th.	12,000
	Bansi West.	Jignan ...	Dhanusjag ...	Aghan Badi 5th	2,500
Bansi ...	Bansi East.	Kakrahi-ghat...	Ashnan ...	Kartik Sudi 15th.	4,000
		Mithaul ...	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Badi 13th.	5,000
Haraiya	Amorha	Jignan ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	5,000
		Jageswar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Karmi Goshain	Ashnan ..	Kartik Sudi 2nd	1,000
		Bharkahwa ...	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi 15th	10,000
		Sirsi ...	Ashnan Makhira.	Ditto ...	100,000
		Hanumanpur...	Ashnan Ainaulipur.	Aghan Sudi 15th.	10,000
	Nagar West.	Tilakpur ...	Ashnan ...	Chait Sudi 9th	1,000
Basti ...	Basti East.	Bhadeswarnath	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Badi 13th.	5,000
	Mahuli West.	Lalganj ...	Ashnan Manorama.	Chait Sudi 15th	5,000
Khalilabad.	Maghar East	Mehndawal ...	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Badi 13th.	4,000
		Sand Khurd ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	4,000
		Tama ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	30,000
		Kop Muafi ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Bahilpar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	500
		Maghar ...	Bhimlapati ...	Kartik Badi 1st	2,000
		Mehndawal ...	Dhanusjag ...	Aghan Badi 5th	400
		Ditto ...	Ramlila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th	400
		Belhar Kalan...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	500
		Ditto ...	Usra Shahid ...	1st Monday in Jeth.	200
		Dudhara ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Belhar Jangal	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Badi 9th	600
		Qazipur ...	Kabir Rauza ...	Aghan Sudi 15th.	2,500
		Shahpur ...	Muharram ...	Muharram 10th	5,000
	Mahuli East.	Hariharpur ...	Ramlila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th.	600
		Ditto ...	Dhanusjag ...	Aghan Badi 5th	8,000
		Chahora ...	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Badi 9th	3,000
		Ditto ...	Ashnan ...	Kartik Sudi 15th.	3,000
		Gaighat ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	5,000
		Ditto ...	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Badi 9th	5,000

GAZETTEER OF BASTI.

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